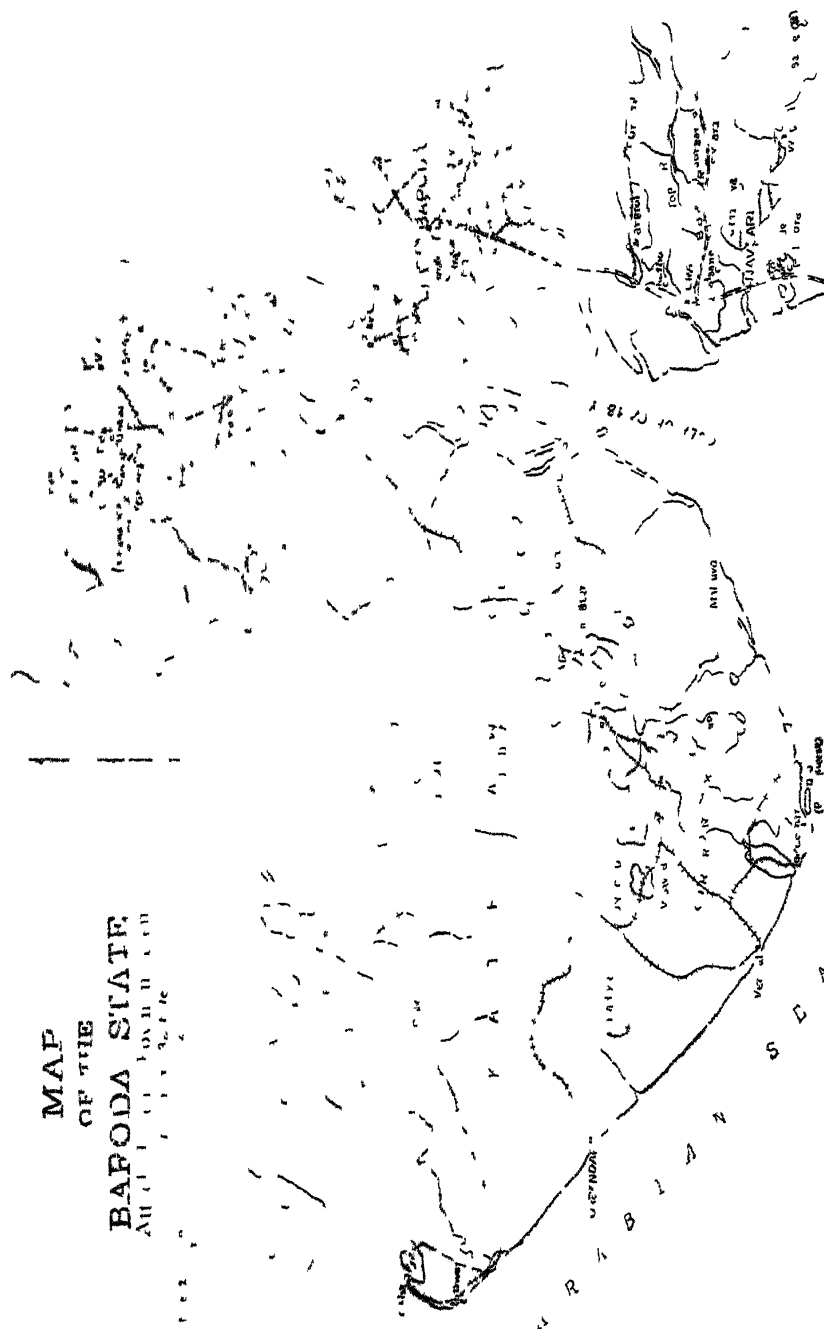


BARODA ADMINISTRATION REPORT

1945-46

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MAP OF THE BARODA STATE AUTHORISED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



BARODA ADMINISTRATION REPORT 1945-46

(1st August 1945 to 31st July 1946)

Published by order of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar

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1947

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Secretariat,
Baroda, 26th September, 1947.

May it please Your Highness,

I have the honour to submit the Administration Report for the year 1945-46.

2. A summary of important activities in the year is attached at the end of the report.

I remain,
Your Highness' most obedient servant,
B. L. MITTER.
Dewan.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGES
I.—GENERAL	1-28
Territory and history	1
The system of Government	7
Administrative system	9
The system of Land Revenue	19
Social and economic structure of the State	25
II.—PALACE	29-31
III.—EXECUTIVE COUNCIL	32
IV.—RELATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS	33-35
V.—ADMINISTRATION OF ATTACHED AREAS	36-39
VI.—LEGISLATION	40-42
Dhara Sabha... ..	40
Legislation... ..	41-42
VII.—JUSTICE	43-48
Huzur Nyaya Sabha	43
Civil	44
Criminal	46
Registration	47
VIII.—LAW AND ORDER	49-54
Police	49
Crime	50
Extradition... ..	53
Prisons	53
IX.—ARMY	55-56
X.—FINANCE	57-65
XI.—REVENUE	66-78
Agricultural Statistics	65
Collection of revenues	69
Development activities	70
XII.—CIVIL SUPPLIES	79-83
XIII.—COMMEMORATION FUNDS	84-89
Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund	84
Diamond Jubilee people's uplift Fund	87
Shree Sayajirao III Memorial Trust Fund	88
XIV.—LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT	90-97
District Local Boards	90
Baroda Municipality	93
District Municipalities... ..	95
XV.—SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LEGISLATION	98-108
Social Legislation	98
Economic legislation	104

CHAPTER	PAGES
XVI.—AGRICULTURE	109-114
Research	109
Agriculture	110
Agricultural Engineering	110
Horticulture	110
Soil conservation	113
Marketing Section	113
Veterinary	114
XVII.—CO-OPERATION	115-125
XVIII.—COMMERCE	126-128
Development of Port Okha	126
Development of Commerce	127
XIX.—INDUSTRIES	129-139
Major industries	130
Cottage industries	133
Industries board	135
Factories	136
Labour	136
XX.—STATISTICS AND INSURANCE	140-143
XXI.—ELECTRICITY	144-146
Electricity	144
Telephone and Broadcasting	145
XXII.—FISHERIES	147-148
XXIII.—FORESTS	149-152
Silviculture	149
Utilisation	150
Forest administration	152
XXIV.—PUBLIC WORKS	153-161
XXV.—STATE RAILWAYS	162-166
XXVI.—EDUCATION	167-185
General progress	167
University Education	168
Secondary Education	171
Education of the Royal children	172
Primary Education	173
Education of the special classes and community	175
Training of teachers	177
Technical Education	178
Libraries	180
Physical Education	181
Scout Organisation	182
Oriental Institute	182
Museum and Picture Gallery	183
Archæology	184
Sanskrit Learning	184
Indian Music	185
The Aurvedic Mahavidyalaya	185

CHAPTER	PAGES
XXVII.—PUBLIC HEALTH	186-193
Medical relief	186
Public health	190
XXVIII.—Post War Reconstruction	194-195
XXIX.—MISCELLANEOUS	196-200
SUMMARY	201-214
INDEX	215-217

DIAGRAMS AND CHARTS

Map of the Baroda State	...	...	...	...	<i>in the beginning</i>
Diagram showing the proportion of expenditure on various heads	...				<i>facing page 60</i>
Chart showing the progress of the co-operative movement in the State					„ 116
Chart showing the financial position of co-operative societies in the State	...	...	...	...	„ 116
Chart showing the mileage, capital outlay, gross earnings and working expenditure	...	...	...	...	„ 162
Diagram showing increase in educational expenditure	...				„ 168
Diagram showing population served by libraries and reading rooms	...				„ 180

Baroda Administration Report

CHAPTER I

GENERAL

TERRITORY — The Baroda State consists of five territorial blocks which lie scattered over Gujarat and Kathiawar, to which natural division it wholly belongs.

The southern district of Navsari lies on either side of the Tapti, forming a mosaic with the villages of the Surat collectorate, and is separated from the Baroda district by the States of the Rewa-Kantha and the Broach district. The western talukas of the district, the Rasti mahals, are flourishing and prosperous. Their rich soil grows good varieties of cotton, fruit and sugarcane. The rivers Tapti, Ambika and Purna drain them from east to west. The eastern parts forming the talukas of Songadh and Vyara, are called the Rani mahals and comprise areas of forests and backward people — the Raniparaj. The central talukas, Mangrol and Mahuva, combine the features of the Rasti and Rani mahals.

The river Narmada, with its picturesque banks, forms the southern boundary of the Baroda district. Almost in the centre, lies the capital of the State, Baroda, a city of palaces and stately public buildings, of parks and recreation grounds, of broad well-laid roads and beautiful avenues, of colleges, schools and hospitals, a city worthy to be the seat of a modern and progressive State. There are four clearly marked tracts in this district. The tract beyond the Mahi, comprising the talukas of Petlad and Bhadran, forms part of Charotar, famous for the fertility of its soil and the variety and the richness of its crops, specially tobacco. The central talukas of Baroda and Padra have a composite soil in which sand and lime are intermixed. The bleak and tree-less country to the south is a part of the Kahnem area. It consists of the talukas of Dabhoi, Sinor and Karjan, and produces some of the finest cotton in India. Finally, to the north and south-east is a country of low forests and numerous ravines.

Further to the north, beyond Ahmedabad, lies the Mehsana district, with its historic towns of Patan and Sidhpur, and its archaeological ruins and ancient monuments of interest and beauty. Mehsana, the district headquarters, is an important junction on the B. B. & C. I. Railway line to Malwa and Rajputana. The eastern part of the district consists of fertile and well-wooded country, the west is drier

and more barren. Except the trans-Sabarmati area, which is wild and picturesque and cut up by many ravines, the district is a sloping plain unrelieved by hills or rivers.

In Kathiawar, far to the west, isolated and dispersed territories form the districts of Amreli and Okhamandal. The central block of the Amreli district is fertile and well cultivated except in the south where it touches the Gir. Providence has been bountiful to Kodinar and given it fertile soil and abundant water.

Okhamandal has its headquarters at Dwarka, an ancient place of pilgrimage, sacred to the Hindus. The country is bleak and barren, "where even stunted trees are bowed low by the subservient winds in obeisance to Dwarka's Lord." In recent years, however, unsuspected sources of wealth have been discovered. The Port of Okha, with its excellent harbour, has become one of the principal ports of Kathiawar and west India, and industrial concerns like the Associated Cement Company, the Tata Chemicals and the Hindustan Motors have been established here. These developments promise to turn a desolate area of the State into one of the richest.

Besides these districts there are extensive territories in Gujarat and Kathiawar, which have been recently attached to the State. In physical features and soil they are similar to the districts which they adjoin. The territories in the Rewa Kantha, between the two rivers the Narmada and the Mahi is a country of low forests and numerous ravines and are rich in good building stone. The areas to the North between the Mahi and the Sabarmati is hilly wild and picturesque and many of the intermediate valleys are remarkable for the beauty of their scenery. The soil is rich and in southern and western parts well cultivated. The territory adjoining the Mehsana district in the north and west is a level plain, sandy and arid, sloping towards the runn of Cutch. The third block of attached territories consists of the states, talukas and estates lying in Kathiawar around the Amreli district. Like that district itself, parts of this country are fertile and well cultivated, but suffer from a periodic shortage of rain. All these territories give promise of considerable development, once education is introduced and they are opened up with roads and railways.

The area and population of these districts are given below:—

District	Area in miles	Population
Baroda	1,933	959,416
Mehsana	3,080	1,180,541
Navsari	1,811	465,923
Amreli	1,071	206,543
Okhamandal	281	42,587
Attached areas	6,067	600,000
Total	14,243	3,455,010

2. HISTORY — The extraordinary configuration of the Baroda territory — its diversity and fragmentation — is the legacy of two centuries of military exploits, internecine wars and financial and administrative mismanagement. When Pilajirao, the founder of the fortunes of the Gaekwar family, captured Songadh, the hill fortress which commands the southern approaches to Gujarat, he laid the foundation of a new power, which rose on the ruins of the Mughal Empire. The establishment of a principality at Songadh, its extension to include the territory which now forms the Baroda district and the defeat of other chieftains who disputed the supremacy of the Gaekwar power, was the work of Pilajirao, during his brief career of eleven years' between 1721 and 1732. The achievements of his successor, the able and energetic Damaji (1732-68), were equally brilliant. He completed the conquest of Gujarat, extended the Maratha power into Kathiawar, and so strengthened his position that he could aspire to be independent of the Peshwa. It is unnecessary to go into the details of the rivalry between the Peshwa and the Gaekwar which in the middle of the eighteenth century led to the partition of Gujarat and of all future conquests between them. The distribution of territories was effected without any considerations of administrative convenience, and solely on the ground of their revenue yielding capacity. In 1817, the Peshwa's portion passed into the hands of the East India Company and now forms the districts of British Gujarat. This fact explains the dispersed situation of the State territories. Among the acquisitions of Damajirao there were two, which formed the nuclei of the present Amreli district — Amreli and Mul Dwarka which he conquered, and Damnagar which he received in dowry.

It is unnecessary to reter here to the history of the years following the death of Damajirao. The Gaekwar's alliance with the East India Company began in 1802, and in 1805 and 1817 he entered into treaties with the Company under which, among other things, a subsidiary force was placed in Baroda, and for its payment valuable territories, approximately 4,000 square miles in extent, were assigned. These cessions constitute the second of the historical reasons for the scattered nature of the State territories at present.

The rule of Maharaja Sayajirao II (1819-1847) was marked by frequent controversies with the Government of Bombay, arising out of the East India Company's guarantees to the bankers, who had advanced money to the State, to the disbanded Arab mercenaries and others. During this period, the East India Company assumed the direct management of the tributaries, it being agreed that the tributes due from them should be collected by the East India Company and paid to Baroda. This assumption of management is also responsible for the present state of the map of the State.

Little need be said about the three successors who bridge the period between Maharaja Sayajirao II and Maharaja Sayajirao III. In

Maharaja Ganpatrao's reign, 1847-56, infanticide and the sale of children were prohibited, and the lands for the B. B. and C. I. Railway were ceded to the British Government free of cost. Maharaja Khanderao's reign, 1856-70, will be memorable for the service he rendered to the British at the time of the Mutiny and the construction of the first railway line in the State between Miyagam and Dabhoi; for reforms in the administration of justice and of land revenue. Whatever improvement had been effected in the administration by these two princes, was within a short period of five years, lost by the deterioration in Maharaja Malharrao's time, 1870-75. He returned to the abuses of the past, introduced a system similar to farming of districts and imposed irregular and special taxes. He was warned in 1874, but in vain. The next year, he was deposed for gross misgovernment, and Maharani Janinabai, the widow of Maharaja Khanderao, was invited to adopt a son who might ascend the Gadi, and Sir T. Madhavrao, one of the ablest administrators of those times, was entrusted with the administration. Maharani Janinabai adopted Gopalrao, a descendant of a brother of Damajirao, who, as Sayajirao III, ascended the gadi on 27th May 1875.

3. THE GOLDEN PERIOD—The sixty four years that this remarkable man was on the throne, is the golden period in the history of the Baroda State. His achievements were numerous: a scientific system of land revenue, survey and settlement was introduced, great departments of State formed; social laws framed and enacted, compulsory education enforced, important programmes of rural reconstruction and industrial development carried out, the social services of the State extended, a net work of railways constructed, the port of Okha developed, and above all, a tradition of just and good government firmly established. His Highness was assisted by a succession of able Ministers but the inspiration was always his. Modern Baroda is the great and fitting memorial to Sayajirao.

Maharaja Sayajirao had the great good fortune of celebrating the diamond jubilee of his reign in January 1936, amid the widespread manifestations of joy and loyalty of his people. To commemorate this unique event, a memorial trust of a crore of rupees was formed by His Highness from his private funds for the benefit of his people. He defined his purpose in these memorable words: "My ideal is to improve village life—all sides of it. I wish to develop in my people a keen desire for a higher standard of living, 'a will to live better', and a capacity for self-help and self-reliance. I earnestly desire to make village life interesting and farming a career, the rewards of which will satisfy the most enterprising among the villagers. From the income of this (fund), grants will be made for useful schemes, like extensions of gamthans to relieve overcrowding, village water supplies, communications, educative work of all kinds etc. Special preference will be given (i) to poorer areas which probably have been neglected in the past, and (ii) to the needs of the backward

communities like the Raniparaj, the Antyajs, the Thakardas, the Rabaris etc." Rules have been framed and a trust board, with the Minister as president, has been constituted for the administration of this fund. The notable part played by this trust in rural development is described in chapter XIII.

The great period of Maharaja Sayajirao closed with his death on the 6th of February 1939. He was succeeded by his grandson, His Highness the Maharaja Pratapsinh Gaekwar, whose reign is already famous for the permanent reduction in land revenue to the extent of over twenty per cent, the constitutional reforms and the Savajirao III Memorial Trust of a crore of rupees, the Maharani Shanta Devi Trust fund for the medical relief of women and children, the extension of the social services, and finally the accession of large areas to the State.

The first three of these measures, the permanent reduction in land revenue, the constitutional reforms and the memorial trust were announced by His Highness, at the time of his accession, in his message to his people on the 20th February 1939. He said:

"During my ten years' association with the government of the State, I also have come to realise that the agriculturist is the backbone of my State and to take the keenest interest in his economic condition and general well-being. As a practical manifestation of my sympathy and affection, I now direct that the reduced assessment (of land revenue) announced by my revered predecessor be substituted for the existing settlement rates and that it shall be varied only in the course of revision of settlements.

It is my fervent hope that as the outcome of these concessions, which meet the equities of the case to the fullest extent, the agriculturist will be encouraged in a life of prudence and thrift and will earnestly seek a higher standard of life and level of prosperity."

The same solicitude for the welfare of his people is seen in the creation of the Sayajirao Memorial Trust. "The long reign of Sir Sayajirao III constitutes the Golden Age of Baroda's history, and in order that his memory may live for ever and his life be a shining inspiration, it is the universal desire that there should be a memorial in every way worthy of his greatness.

I have, therefore, decided to set apart from my private funds, the sum of one crore of rupees to perpetuate the memory of the great man whom we have lost. It is my desire that all classes and communities in the State, without exception, should receive the benefit of this Trust.

Thus will generations to come be reminded of a Ruler, who dedicated his life to his people, and who chose service as the highest ideal,

in precept and in practice." The schemes under this trust are described in chapter XIII.

In the same message, His Highness also announced his consent to the recommendations of the committee appointed, in 1938, to consider constitutional advance. He said "The new constitution will emphasise once more the complete identity of interests between the Ruler and the ruled and among all sections of the population; and it is my earnest hope, that it will advance the material and moral condition of my people including those on whom age-old customs have imposed disabilities."

4. ATTACHED AREAS — The measures taken during these two regimes and the development which resulted, as well as the personality of the rulers, gave Baroda a position unique among the States and enabled her to play her part in shaping the future polity of India. It is necessary to refer at some length to this, for there has been no event in the recent history of Baroda of greater historical significance than the attachment of some 252 states, talukas and estates of Gujarat and Kathiawar, occupying more than 6,000 square miles, an area almost as large as the State itself. If the States are to make their influence felt in the polity of India, they must so adjust themselves as to form units, as nearly equal as possible, in size, population and economic and cultural development to the provinces of British India. The very small states, in themselves, lack the essentials for such development and, unless they seek to acquire the power of such growth by voluntary association with States like Baroda, they can have no place in the future. "The firm establishment of conditions in which these areas will secure and enjoy full opportunity for progress and development," is the object underlying the new relationship and the Baroda Government are pledged to see that no effort will be spared in its realisation.

This pledge is being fully redeemed. In his message to the chiefs, talukdars, bhagdars and the people of the areas, His Highness the Maharaja announced measures for their welfare :—

- (i) For rural development, he announced an annual grant of Rs. 0·50 lakhs from the Diamond Jubilee Trust and the formation of a new trust associated with his name yielding an equal sum.
- (ii) The setting apart of Rs. 10,000 every year, for the education of the children of the chiefs and talukdars.

The whole administration of the attached area has been re-organised. Two special officers, one at Baroda and one at Amreli, have been appointed with deputies stationed at Baroda, Mehsana, Patan and Amreli to assist them. A special department under the Commissioner of Agriculture has been created for rural development and the

extension of co-operative movement in these areas. A judicial service for the exercise of residual jurisdiction, has been established, the police force has been enlarged and various departments such as public works, sanitation and education expanded to meet the needs of the attached areas.

The social services, for which the State is so justly famous, are being rapidly extended to these areas. Compulsory education has been introduced in some areas and panchayats organised in several villages. Dispensaries and maternity hospitals and clinics have been sanctioned and the services and the medical and educational institutions of the State thrown open to the people, on the same terms as are enjoyed by the subjects of the State. Loans have been advanced to units which were heavily indebted to free them from usurious creditors.

In the schemes for post war reconstruction also, ample provision has been made for the development of these areas by building roads and railways and opening dispensaries and schools, rural reconstruction centres, etc.

A full account of the administration of the attached areas will be found in chapter V.

The second part of this chapter deals with the system of government and administration, the settlement of land and the social and economic conditions in the State as they are found to-day.

The System of Government

5. **THE RULER** — The Ruler is the source of all authority and power in the State, but he has delegated wide powers to the executive council, the legislative assembly and the judiciary, reserving to himself important questions involving policy. The revenues of the State are regarded as public funds, and the Privy Purse or Khangi which includes all expenditure on the Palace is fixed.

6. **GOVERNMENT OF BARODA ACT** — The Government of Baroda Act, 1940, defines the constitution, the functions and powers of the executive council, the legislature and the judiciary.

7. **EXECUTIVE** — The executive council consists of the chief minister called Dewan, and five Naib Dewans, two of whom are non-official with a record of public service, appointed from among the members of the Dhara Sabha. All members are responsible to the Maharaja. The council has been vested with wide powers of administration. Each member is in charge of a number of departments in respect of which he exercises clearly defined administrative powers. The Minister and his colleagues are assisted by a secretariat, organised on the system prevailing in British India. The entire

administration is carried on through well organised departments. These departments address their proposals, when necessary, to the government, which are submitted to the member in charge and the council. The relations with the British Government and Indian States are conducted by the Minister personally through the political office.

8. LEGISLATURE — The Dhara Sabha or the legislative council was re-instituted in 1940 under the Government of Baroda Act. It now consists of sixty-nine members, of whom twenty seven are elected by territorial constituencies on a wide franchise. Every person who holds land assessed at not less than Rs. 30, or pays income tax, or owns immovable property worth Rs. 1,000 or more, or has passed the matriculation or an equivalent examination, is entitled to vote and to stand as a candidate. The number of persons on the voters' list for the general constituencies at the election of 1945 was 2,33,714 or about 8.1 per cent of the population of the State. Besides these, ten members representing industry, commerce, labour and the co-operative movement are elected from special constituencies. The other twenty two members of the Dhara Sabha are nominated. Five are officials and seventeen non-officials. The Dewan is the president. There is also a deputy president, who is elected by the Dhara Sabha. Four parliamentary secretaries are appointed to assist the members of the executive council in their work relating to the Dhara Sabha, and a Dhara Sabha secretariat, directly under the President, has been formed.

The Dhara Sabha has the power to initiate and pass legislation, to discuss and vote on the budget. Members may also ask questions and move resolutions on matters of public interest, subject to certain limitations. All legislation requires the assent of the Maharaja. Measures affecting the army, the privy purse, treaties or relations with the paramount power or other states, the credit of the State, or the provisions of the Government of Baroda Act are excluded from its cognisance. Similarly, expenditure charged upon the revenues of the State is not submitted to the vote of the House. There are certain matters which require the previous sanction of the Maharaja, before measures relating to them can be introduced. The Dewan has power of certification. He may certify a measure before the House as affecting the tranquility of the State, in which case the measure is dropped, or he may certify that a bill or amendment rejected by the assembly is an emergent measure, and submit it to the Maharaja to enact it as law.

9. THE JUDICIARY — The judiciary is separate from, and independent of, the legislature and the executive. The judges of the High Court hold office till the age of retirement, and may only be removed by His Highness on the ground of misbehaviour or infirmity of body and mind. Their salaries are also not subject to the vote of

the Dhara Sabha. Under the present Act, the position, status and functions of the Huzur Nyaya Sabha and the High Court have been stabilised and put on a statutory basis.

10. **THE POLICY** — The policy of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has been set out clearly — it is the close association of the people with the government. To give effect to this policy, he has promulgated the new constitution which, in His Highness' memorable words, "will emphasise once more the complete identity of interests between the ruler and the ruled and among all sections of the people." (Baroda has developed for many decades on lines of its own and evolved an individuality of which it is justly proud. In constitutional matters too, it has developed forms and institutions, which, while giving full effect to the principle of close association, are suited to her conditions and serve her special needs. In the Dhara Sabha no attempt has been made to form blocks. Members always formed and expressed views, independently on the merits of individual issues. These valuable features are sought to be preserved, as far as possible in the present constitution.)

Administrative System

11. **REVENUE DEPARTMENT** — Under the old farming system, the revenue farmers were not only collectors of revenue, but exercised civil and criminal jurisdiction as well. When this system gave place to direct settlement of land revenue with the ryot, it became necessary to create revenue, judicial and police services. The present hierarchy, with clearly defined powers of each grade, dates from that time.

The revenue administration of the State is modelled on the system prevailing in the ryotwari provinces of British India. In one important principle, however, it departs from the policy of the British Government. There has been almost complete separation of the executive and the judiciary since 1907.

The revenue administration consists of a gradation of officers, with the Sar Suba at the head. He deals with land revenue, barkhali, giras, boundary and railway demarcation, registration and stamps, guardians and wards, estates under government management, compensation, charitable institutions, income-tax, customs, excise and opium and local self-government. Under the Sar Suba, there is a Suba or a Collector, at the head of each of the five districts of the State.

The Suba, as District Magistrate, is primarily responsible for the maintenance of law and order and for the work of the police. He is the official head of his district, and it is his duty to see that the land revenue, income-tax and other revenues are duly collected. The maintenance of land records by village officials, the

state of the crops, the economic condition of the people and the grant or remission and suspension of land revenue, when necessary, demand his attention.

A district consists of eight to ten mahals or talukas, each in charge of a vahivatdar—smaller talukas called peta-mahals are placed under mahalkaris. The vahivatdar is the chief revenue officer in the taluka. He exercises second class magisterial powers for the purpose of maintaining peace and order. There are thirty four talukas and eleven peta mahals in the State.

Over a group of three to four talukas there is a naib suba, primarily a supervising and inspecting officer. There are 11 subdivisions. There are also personal naib subas stationed at district headquarters, who help the Subas in general supervision, and administer with Suba's powers stamp and registration, court of wards, compensation, estates under government management, and deva-than.

The smallest unit of administration is the village. In each village, there is a headman patel, an accountant talati, and a staff of village servants. The patel is responsible for the collection of revenue, and its remittance to the taluka treasury. He must help to maintain law and order in his village, and must report the occurrence of crimes to the higher authorities. He is the president of the village panchayat. The talati is responsible for the maintenance and custody of the accounts and land records. He records what crops are raised in each field, and submits an estimate of the harvest.

12. JUDICIARY — The varisht (high) court is the supreme tribunal in the State, subject to an appeal to the Maharaja, in cases similar to those in which appeals are permitted in British India to the Privy Council. In the disposal of these appeals, the Maharaja is advised by the Privy Council (Nyaya Sabha) which corresponds to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. The Nyaya Sabha consists of the President of the Privy Council and two members, including a judge of the high court.

The varisht court does not exercise original civil or criminal jurisdiction, but only appellate and revisional powers. It, however, possesses extraordinary powers to try original cases both civil and criminal, and it exercises a general superintendence and control over the whole administration of justice. The judges of the high court are appointed by the Maharaja from among the district judges or leading members of the bar.

Under the high court there are five district courts, which try civil suits of any limit, small causes suits upto Rs. 1,000, and sit as sessions court for criminal cases. Assisting these, are assistant judges' courts, with the same civil jurisdiction (small causes suits upto

Rs. 500 only) as district courts, but with limited powers in criminal cases. In talukas, there are munsiffs' courts. They hear civil suits upto Rs. 10,000, small causes suits upto Rs. 200 (Rs. 500 when sitting in bench) and enjoy first class magisterial powers. The judicial cadre consists of three high court judges, five district judges and magistrates, five assistant district judges and forty munsiffs.

13. POLICE — Formerly, magisterial and police functions were exercised by the same officers, nor was there any clear demarcation between the army and the police. With the reforms of Sir T. Madhavrao, magisterial and police functions became separated, and a police service independent of the army was created. At present, the force consists of two distinct bodies — the stipendiary and the village police. The former is under the control of the Police Commissioner, and the latter, though under the revenue department, is responsible to him for their police duties.

The stipendiary police consists of five units with 5,213 officers and men. The armed forces, which consist of about two thirds of the stipendiary police, guard jails and treasuries, escort prisoners etc. A special armed reserved force is maintained in each district for emergencies.

Besides this, there is the mounted police, which patrol boundaries, guard dangerous points, pursue dacoits and form an escort during His Highness' tours; the city police, which is in charge of registration of vehicles in Baroda City, and controls traffic; the railway police, on the State railways in the Baroda and Mehsana districts; and the water police, whose duty is to prevent and detect crime on the sea, and smuggling in Kodinar and Okhamandal.

The police organisation is a graded hierarchy of the jamadar, with a few constables under him in charge of a chowky, the outpost with its naib foudar, the police station under foudar, the circle under sar foudar and the police naib suba in charge of a district. Each officer is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in his jurisdiction. The head of the department is the Commissioner of Police.

14. ARMY — The Baroda army consists of regular and irregular troops. The maximum strength of the former is 3140 (effectives) — cavalry 659, infantry 2416, band 60 and 5 staff officers.

15. FINANCE — Till 1875, the finances of the State rested on the twin system of revenue farming and the potdari. The State did not collect its revenues, but auctioned the right of collection to the highest bidder; nor did it maintain a treasury of its own, but drew upon accredited bankers for such sums as it required, and for repayment, granted them letters of credit on some farmer of revenue. On these transactions the State paid a heavy rate of interest and a commission. Sometimes the Maharajas themselves were bankers to the State.

One of the earliest reforms of Sir T. Madhavrao was to abolish the potdari system and establish an accounts department. The accounts department, under the Accountant General, has now four sections : finance, investment, accounts, and audit. It prepares the budget statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure for the coming year, keeps the government informed of the chief causes of fluctuations, and with the help of the budget committee, advises government on all questions affecting the finances of the State; submits to government a reappropriation report, explaining the reasons of the variations. It attends to the investment of surplus funds, and in this work it is advised by an investment committee and financial experts. It tabulates receipts and expenditure under prescribed heads, and compiles monthly and annual statements of accounts. It audits accounts of all government offices, in Baroda on pre-audit and elsewhere on post-audit system.

16. STATE RESERVES — In 1938-39, the government adopted two important measures as a result of the examination of the finances of the State, following the reduction in the land revenue of Rs. 23·65 lakhs, and the concession of Rs. 3·04 lakhs in favour of prant panchayats made that year. :—

- (i) *The constitution of a State reserve fund* : Out of the liquid assets of the State, Rs. 350 lakhs were set apart to form a reserve. This amount will be utilised for schemes of remunerative capital expenditure.
- (ii) *The formation of a Land Revenue equalisation fund* : As land revenue forms the main source of income of the State, seasonal vicissitudes had serious repercussions on the budget estimates. To avoid such dislocations, this fund has been created, taking normal realisations from land revenue at Rs. 95 lakhs. If the actual realisations exceed this standard, the excess is added to the fund; if the receipts fall short, the deficit is made good by drawing upon it. To start with, the fund was credited with Rs. 50 lakhs from the savings of the State. Fluctuations under land revenue thus cannot affect the activities of the development departments, or restrict the range of social services rendered by the State.

17. AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT — The agricultural department was founded in 1909, in sympathy with the general movement in the country, following the great famines of 1899-1901, to improve the methods of agriculture. Till recently, the policy was to wait and watch the results of scientific work obtained at the British institutions, and particularly at those located in the immediate neighbourhood of the State, and to try to demonstrate improvements of proved value to the people. The

agricultural department, developed on these lines, however, did not prove as useful as was expected. In 1936, therefore, a new policy was adopted : of vigorous technical development, and an equally vigorous propaganda to carry the knowledge of improved agriculture to every agriculturist of the State. A technical expert of great experience was appointed Commissioner of Agriculture, and the department expanded to meet the new needs. A measure of the development of the department is the increase in its expenditure from Rs. 1·8 lakhs in 1934-35 to Rs. 10·17 lakhs in the year 1945-46.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into the northern and southern circles, each under a deputy director. The different sections: agricultural chemistry, engineering, marketing, horticulture and animal husbandry and veterinary relief are also in charge of qualified officers.

18. CO-OPERATION — The Co-operative Credit Societies Act was passed in the State in 1905, a year after the enactment of a similar law in British India. This act provided for the organisation of credit societies, only. It was amended in 1912, to permit the organisation of non-credit societies as well. The expansion of the co-operative movement to embrace all aspects of village life and form centres for rural development, has been a notable feature of its development in recent years. The number of societies in the State is now 1,509, with 1,32,150 members and a working capital of Rs. 202 lakhs. It has been calculated that 20·8 per cent of the population is directly affected by the movement—10·5 per cent of rural and 48·4 per cent of urban population. The Registrar of Co-operative societies is assisted by two assistant registrars and 22 auditors.

19. COMMERCE — The commerce department deals with commerce and is in charge of the activities connected with the ports of the State. The customs agreement of 1936 with the Government of India set at rest a long pending dispute in regard to the customs rights of the State.

20. INDUSTRIES — The department of industries is maintained to implement the government's policy of active assistance in starting new, or developing existing industries. This assistance extends in several directions. The department takes a share in industrial research work; provides technical assistance to industrialists; conducts surveys; and supplies information to the public; examines applications for special concessions and grants of loans to industries; or for assistance by participation in the share capital of pioneer industries, or for concessions such as acquisition of land, remission of octroi duty, supply of cheap power and water.

For the revival and development of cottage industries, the government maintain a central institute—the Diamond Jubilee

Cottage Industries Institute—at Baroda, and a large number of special training classes in villages, and give grant-in-aid to private institutions working towards this object.

In the administration of the Boiler Act and the Factories Act, the Director of Industries is assisted by a boiler inspector and a labour officer.

21. **STATISTICS** — The statistics department was constituted in 1935. It compiles statistics useful to industrial and commercial classes and the State. It is also in charge of the administration of the Companies Act, the Insurance Act and the insurance of State servants.

22. **FORESTS** — The total area of forests in the State is 714 square miles. The area is divided into nine ranges for administration. Of these, five are in the Navsari district and one in each of the other districts. The work of conservation and exploitation is controlled by a Conservator of Forests and two assistants.

23. **FISHERIES** — The fisheries department was created in 1937. The Director is assisted by an assistant director and a small technical staff. The work mainly consists of improving the food supply of the people, by developing both marine and fresh water fisheries of the State, the introduction of new fishery industries and the improvement of the material and moral condition of the fishing community.

24. **EDUCATION** — The history of education in the State dates back to 1871, when for the first time two Gujarati and two Marathi schools were opened by the government. Four years later, the vernacular education department was formed under the Vidyadhikari. The progress was at first slow, and when Sayajirao III assumed full powers in 1881, there were no more than 180 primary schools with 7,465 pupils. Under his inspiration, however, education developed rapidly. In 1893, compulsory primary education was introduced as an experimental measure in the Amreli district, and rapidly extended, till in 1906 it was made applicable to the whole State. Education is now free and compulsory between the ages of 7 and 12, and all primary education upto class V is free.

The education department controls and supervises the entire primary education in the State. In this the Vidyadhikari—Commissioner of Education—is assisted by an assistant commissioner, and six divisional inspectors, each in charge of a division, and two inspectresses of girls' schools. Under these district inspectors there are 31 deputy inspectors, and special deputy inspectors for Urdu, Antyaj and Raniparaj schools. Compulsion is enforced by fines imposed by head masters and is based on the list of children of school going age,

drawn up in each village by the patel and the school master. The fines do not form revenues of the State, but are credited to a separate fund, which is utilised for constructing school buildings and awarding scholarships.

Secondary, university and technical education are also under the Commissioner of Education, as also all government educational institutions such as the museum, the libraries, the Oriental Institute and the music and sanskrit schools. There are, however, directors or curators in charge of each of these sections to assist him.

There are 2,329 government primary schools with 6,746 teachers and 50 government secondary schools with 484 teachers. There is a special inspector for secondary schools. There are 4 colleges affiliated to the Bombay University and many new colleges, a medical college, an engineering college and three more arts colleges, are being started. Technical education is provided for at the Kalabhavan,—the central technical institute,—and several technical schools in the districts.

25. **LIBRARY MOVEMENT** — Perhaps the most important development in education in recent years, is the establishment of a network of village libraries throughout the State. The genesis of the district library movement lies in the fact, realised after some years of experience of compulsory education, that a boy or a girl who has passed the fifth standard Gujarati, lapses into illiteracy within a few years, unless opportunities are provided to him or her to continue reading. The government, therefore, adopted a policy of providing a library in every village where there was a school, the help given by government and district boards being equal to contribution raised by the library. With this object, mofussil libraries are grouped under three classes : district libraries receive grant upto Rs. 700; town libraries upto Rs.300; and village libraries upto Rs. 100. Women's libraries and children's receive grant on the basis of village libraries and reading rooms upto Rs. 50. Under this policy, the number of district libraries rose from 697 in 1930 to 1,531 in 1946. Besides this, there is the travelling libraries' section. The population served by the libraries now forms 100 per cent of the town population, and 78.27 per cent of the village, and 82.6 per cent of the population of the State as a whole.

26. **MEDICAL DEPARTMENT** — The medical department was organised in 1876, when a few medical graduates were appointed. Between 1881 and 1919, an extensive programme to provide all district towns with hospitals, and all taluka towns with dispensaries was carried out. The same period saw the establishment of two great hospitals in the City : The Countess of Dufferin Hospital in 1886, and the State General Hospital in 1907. In 1919, a programme was adopted for opening dispensaries in rural areas, so that medical

help would be available within five miles of every village. The programme has been completed and 69 new dispensaries established. These dispensaries are in charge of L. C. P. S. sub-assistant surgeons and the others in that of medical graduates. There are now 129 medical institutions—one for 63·4 square miles or 22,132 of the population, 161 sub-assistant surgeons, 174 nurses and midwives, and 111 compounders.

The Maharani Shanta Devi Trust Fund : A separate trust, associated with the name of Her Highness Maharani Shanta Devi, has been created, which extends the facilities now available for medical aid for women and children. The government have transferred to the trust Rs. 5 lakhs, and contribute every year about Rs. 50,000, of which Rs. 10,000 is from the Sayajirao III Memorial Fund. The trust has so far sanctioned thirty seven medical institutions for women besides a separate children's hospital attached to the general hospital in Baroda City.

27. SANITARY DEPARTMENT — Sanitation forms the principal function of municipalities in towns and village panchayats. The municipalities are assisted by sanitary committees, consisting of municipal members and others. The village panchayats are guided by district sanitary inspectors. The Sanitary Commissioner exercises a general supervision, in which he is assisted by two assistant commissioners. He is also in charge of the work connected with vital statistics.

Vaccination before the child is six months old and revaccination at the age of 8 is compulsory in the whole of Baroda State.

28. PUBLIC WORKS — The public works department, formerly known as Imarat Karkhana, was constituted in 1877, and an ambitious programme of public buildings, irrigation and gardens was undertaken. In 1885, a separate branch for the development of irrigation works was created and during the next thirty five years, old irrigation tanks were renovated and no less than 23 new ones constructed at the cost of Rs. 52 lakhs. They were designed to supply water to cover 100,000 bighas. These have, however, not been altogether successful.

The department is organised in five sections : civil, architecture, mechanical and boring, irrigation and gardens, each under a qualified officer, with the Chief Engineer at the head. For the civil branch, the Chief Engineer is assisted by a superintending engineer. The State is divided into the city, and four divisions, each in charge of an executive engineer, Okhamandal being under the Harbour Board for public works purposes. The executive engineers control the district staff, consisting of 26 sub-divisional officers. These are employed on irrigation and other public works.

29. **RAILWAYS** — Baroda was among the earliest of the States to initiate a regular system of railways. The first line was opened in 1869 between Miyagam and Dabhoi. Since then a network of railways has been constructed in the State, and to-day Baroda has for its area the largest mileage in India — 795 miles, of which 21·42 miles are broad-gauge, 345·64 miles meter-gauge and 428·11 miles narrow-gauge. The total capital invested is Rs. 5·97 crores.

30. **ELECTRICITY** — The department was split up into two: Electricity and Broadcasting and Telephones. The principal undertaking of the Electric department is the city electric supply. Besides this, there are electric supply concerns at Petlad, Okha and Gandevi, and water lifting stations at Manekpur and Umrā.

31. **TELEPHONES & BROADCASTING** — The department of Broadcasting and Telephones has been formed during the year under report. There are automatic telephones in Baroda, Navsari, Petlad, Dabhoi, Kalol, Mehsana and Billimora, and public call offices at Bhilupur, Gandevi, Unja and Kadi. The work in connection with Broadcasting was on hand.

32. **STATIONERY AND PRINTING** — The supply of stationery to all government offices is controlled by the Manager, State Press. The printing work for government is done at the State Press established in 1924.

33. **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES** — The following are some of the important boards and committees working in the State :—

- (i) *The Services Committee* — All appointments to posts, not filled by promotion, are made on the recommendations of the services committee. The committee consists of a Naib Dewan, who is the president, the Commissioner of Education, the Accountant General, the Principal of the Baroda College and the Chief Secretary to government. The last mentioned officer also works as its Secretary.
- (ii) *The Budget Committee* — To scrutinise, check and revise the estimates of the different departments and all proposals involving expenditure, the Budget Committee was constituted in 1930. Its chief function is to examine into the details of State expenditure, without criticising the policy. It is presided over by a Naib Dewan. The Accountant General, two retired officers of the State, and not more than three persons nominated by the Huzur are members.
- (iii) *The Education Board* — The board is constituted to consider and discuss important questions concerning the development of education in the State. It studies problems regarding the syllabus in State schools, voca-

tional and adult education, finance and the like. There are 15 members on the board, of whom more than 10 are non-official members representing all sections and communities.

Local self-government

- 7 11 34. **VILLAGE PANCHAYATS** — The new system of administration of land revenue, justice and police deprived the village organisations of much of their power and usefulness. But Baroda can pride itself on the fact, that from the beginning steps were taken to preserve the self-government of the village. Panchayats were constituted in all villages, and entrusted with powers and duties, which they had enjoyed by custom, and funds provided for them.

Since then, from time to time the panchayats have been reorganised, their constitution made more liberal, and their resources and powers extended.

To-day, every village with a population of more than 500 has its own panchayat; smaller villages are grouped together, and a common panchayat organised for them. Two thirds of the members are elected under a very wide franchise. The patel is the ex-officio president, but the panchayats appoint their own secretaries and treasurers. They enjoy power of supervision over village affair and institutions, and are in charge of village sanitation, water supply and drainage. They are entrusted with revenue functions, such as ordinary cases of mutations of lands, giving permission to build, and a few of them have been given power to try civil and criminal cases. A portion of the local cess, contributions by prant panchayats, and certain items of government revenue, such as sale proceeds of grass, trees etc., form their main sources of income.

35. **DISTRICT BOARDS** — In 1904, the system of representative institutions was extended to districts, and prant panchayats or district boards constituted. The prant panchayats now consist of a majority of members elected on a wide franchise. They have been entrusted with the construction of roads, wells, cattle troughs, dharmashalas, and schools, and with sanitation and public health. Since 1939, they elect their presidents. They have their own engineering staff. Formerly, they were entrusted with full control over primary schools, but they were not found suitable agency for enforcing compulsion, and the control was resumed. They, however, continued to pay a third of the local cess towards education till 1939, when to strengthen their resources and enable them to undertake works of importance, they were relieved of this (Rs. 2.75 lakhs) as well as of their contribution of Rs. 0.29 lakhs towards veterinary services. This added Rs. 3.04 lakhs to their resources. The total income of five prant panchayats is about Rs. 10.16 lakhs,

36. **THE BARODA MUNICIPALITY** — Previous to the Municipal Act of 1892, there were no self-governing institutions, for the management of municipal affairs in towns. In that year, the principle of election was introduced in the Baroda Municipality. Its present constitution is based on the Act of 1905, which separated the executive and the deliberative functions, conferred considerable financial powers, and increased the elected members from half to two thirds. Since then, its powers, responsibilities and privileges have been extended, and it now elects its own president. Except for such matters as taxation, making rules and bye-laws, the municipality enjoys independent powers. Its income, including a government grant of Rs. 1·25 lakhs, is about Rs. 15·39 lakhs.

37. **DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES** — In other towns, there was no municipal government in its real sense, prior to the Municipal Act of 1905, which was based on the Bombay Municipal Act III of 1901. Under this Act, municipalities are classed "A" and "B" according to their size, importance and fitness for self-government. The proportion of elected members differs slightly in these two and the presidents in both cases were, till recently, government officials. Since 1939, however, all the "A" and some of "B" class municipalities, have been allowed to elect their presidents. In the early days, the sole source of income of these bodies was government grants, but these have been largely discontinued, and municipalities are empowered to levy house-tax, octroi and such other duties. There are eleven "A" class and thirty "B" class municipalities. The total income of "A" class municipalities is about Rs. 9·8 lakhs and of "B" class about Rs. 5·5 lakhs.

The system of land revenue

38. **SETTLEMENT OF RYOTWARI LANDS** — In the earlier days, districts were annually farmed out to the highest bidders, and the cultivator enjoyed neither security of tenure nor of assessment. Sayajirao III's most memorable reform was the settlement of the lands on a just and equitable basis. In this, he followed the Bombay system and the principles formulated in the Joint Report of 1847.

39. **OCCUPANCY RIGHTS** — In Baroda as in the Province of Bombay the common tenure was the ryotwari tenure, under which the occupant of land deals directly with government, and is responsible for the payment of revenues, assessed only on his own holding. This tenure was accepted as the basis of the new system. The rights, which the occupant enjoys over his occupancy, were stated, and are now defined in the Baroda Land Revenue Code. The occupancy can be inherited, sold, burdened with debt, relinquished or otherwise alienated. In certain parts of the State, however, laws have been passed in the interest of backward classes, restricting the right of alienation. These are described in the chapter on social and economic legislation.

40. **SURVEY** — To define precisely the lands in respect of which these rights are given, an accurate survey is necessary. The arable land, whether cultivated or not, is therefore, split up into fields or survey numbers, the "field" being an artificial unit of such a size as would make for flexibility of transfer of land and permit the ryot to contract or enlarge his holding, according to his resources. The average size is eight bighas of dry and three of wet land. The fields are measured with chain and cross staff and their boundaries fixed by official boundary marks. The record of the survey is preserved and maintained by an elaborate system of maps and measurements. In the surveys that were carried out, it was necessary to split up holdings larger than the standard size, and combine holdings of less than a minimum area. Subordinate shares within a survey number were measured, assessed and demarcated as sub-numbers.

41. **SETTLEMENT** — The settlement of the revenue is made taluka by taluka, at long intervals of 15–30 years, by officers appointed specially for the purpose, and once made, remains unchanged for the period for which the guarantee has been given. The revenue officer has normally nothing more to do than administer it.

The conditions at the time of the original settlements did not justify settlements for a period longer than fifteen years. There was much waste land, rents were low, cultivation was fluctuating, and there was likelihood of a rapid development of resources owing to the construction of roads and railways, an increase in population, a rise in prices and the establishment of peace and order in the State. These considerations, however, did not prevail to the same extent at the time of the revision settlements which, therefore, were invariably made for thirty years.

The settlement is based on the principle that "land should be assessed in accordance with its capabilities." Such a settlement involves two distinct processes :—

- (i) *The determination of the aggregate amount of assessment for a taluka* : The main considerations, which guide the settlement officer in determining whether the existing assessment of a taluka is suitable or requires to be modified, are its rainfall, the state of communications and markets, the class of cultivation and the state of husbandry, the revenue history including statistics of demand, collection, remissions, arrears and coercive measures, and the expansion or contraction in the area occupied as indicating the pressure of assessment. The statistics of rents, sales and mortgages, as indicating the proportion of assessment to the profit of agriculture, and the movement of prices indicate the extent to which the aggregate may be modified.

- (ii) *Distribution of the aggregate* : The aggregate having been determined, the next operation consists of apportioning the aggregate to the various fields or survey numbers, according to their relative values. The circumstances affecting the values of fields within the same village are three: their natural productive capabilities, irrigation facilities and position with respect to the village. Lands are, accordingly, divided into classes on lines familiar to the cultivator — dry crop and irrigated — and each class further classified according to factors that affect their natural productivity, depth, texture and quality of the soil, irrigation facilities etc. Fields are examined and their relative value in respect to these factors is expressed in terms of anna valuation, or fractional shares calculated in sixteenths. Irrigation facilities, such as wells, in the earlier settlements were taxed by additional assessment on the fields they served. But this, as it amounted to a tax on improvements, was against government's policy of taxing only the natural capabilities of the soil, and the system lent itself to easy evasion. In later settlements, therefore, the system of subsoil rate was adopted. Water facility is considered as one of the fertilizing elements of the soil, and included in the soil classification, according to the depth and quality of the subsoil water. A light burden is thus imposed on all who enjoy land possessing irrigation facilities, instead of a heavy rate on those only, who made their use. The system has relieved the cultivator of all apprehension regarding assessment of well improvements, and has provided an impetus to the construction of wells.

The calculation of the assessment each survey number should bear, according to its capacity as expressed by classification, is a purely arithmetical process. But in doing so, the relative situation of the villages of the taluka in respect of climate, communications and markets and such other factors, is considered. The taluka is divided into groups of villages and the aggregate apportioned between group and group in relation to these advantages and disadvantages.

These were the principles on which the original settlements of the talukas of the State were made between 1880 and 1901, mostly by two officers of the Bombay Government, Mr. Elliot and Mr. Seddon.

42. REVISION SETTLEMENTS — Periodical revisions, though based on the same principles, raise the fundamental question with regard to

taxation of improvements. The policy of the Baroda Government is defined in the land revenue code and the revision settlement rules. These enactments secure to the cultivator in perpetuity, the whole of the profit arising from improvements in his land carried out at his own cost, such as wells and tanks; and he is secured against conversion of dry land into kvari, by provisions in the revision settlement rules, under which lands are not to be reclassified, except when there has been a change of a permanent nature in the physical features of the soil over a fairly large area. Enhancement at settlements are fixed solely on the basis of a general rise in prices of standard crops, and the policy is to see that assessments are raised only moderately – the agriculturist being allowed a proportion of the benefit due to increase in prices.

43. **SUSPENSION AND REMISSION** — In a fixed cash settlement, the government revenue represents the sum that may fairly be demanded on an average of seasons. It is believed that cultivators will save from the surplus of good years to meet the deficit in lean years. The revenue system of the State has recognised the necessity of special arrangements for relaxation in realisation of the revenue demand, when there is serious failure of crops. With a view to ascertain the yields in any season, a procedure has been laid down whereby the yield in different crops is expressed as a fraction of a rupee which is supposed to represent the normal yield of the particular crop in the tract concerned.

The Settlement of barkhali (alienated) lands

44. **ORIGIN OF BARKHALI LANDS** — In the times of trouble preceding the establishment of ordered government in the State, the right of alienating lands was assumed by farmers of revenue and executive officers of all grades even down to patels. Repeated efforts were made by the government to prevent these alienations but to no purpose. By 1875, the extent of alienated lands in the State was considerable. The settlement of these lands was organised in 1889, and rules were formulated, which are still in force. Inquiry into individual cases was not made, the government preferring, as in Bombay, a summary settlement according to certain principles. All lands acquired before 1826, the year in which Sayajirao II had issued orders forbidding alienations, were charged a quit rent of 2 annas, and others of 4 annas and where title to land was recognised, sanads were given guaranteeing succession to direct and collateral heirs and recognising adoption.

45. **KINDS OF BARKHALI LANDS** — The barkhali lands, to which this settlement referred, consist of four kinds of inams: personal, devasthan, hereditary service and political.

- (a) *Personal*: These inams were given as gifts to persons as a mark of favour or for past service. Such, for instance, are Jat dharmadaya lands bestowed on Brahmins, Bhattis, Charans, etc., or the wazeefa lands granted by Muslim governments to pious persons or for past services. Such grants were continued unconditionally.
- (b) *Devasthan lands*: Lands alienated for the maintenance of temples, mosques and such other religious or charitable institutions of a permanent character are devasthan inams. These were continued permanently free of assessment, except in cases where the temples or images had ceased to exist.
- (c) *Service grants*: There are three distinct classes of service grants:
 - (i) Dharwadaya chakariat were lands given for worship or as payment for services at religious or charitable institutions. As these inams were given to individuals, the reason for a total or a permanent exemption from revenue did not apply. Therefore, the inams were continued only in the family to which they had been given and permanent alienation was prohibited.
 - (ii) Vatans were grants for performance of civil duties. These inamdars were deeply in debt and had mortgaged their property, and all except muzumdars and a few desais, had long ceased to render any service themselves, and sent low paid clerks instead. Measures were adopted to rehabilitate them. A settlement of their remuneration on a fair, intelligible and stable basis was made, their service and its nature defined, and rules framed for regulating succession. A similar settlement of inami villages was also made.
 - (iii) Chakariat lands were given for village service and are, strictly speaking, not alienated lands. They are assigned in lieu of cash payments. When the settlement was undertaken, some of the larger villages had no government assistance towards guarding field produce, and others towards conservancy, and so forth. Most of the village servants had mortgaged or sold their lands. So, the two main points of settlement were: (a) an equal distribution of village service among all towns and villages according to population, revenue, and geographical position, and, (b) a choice for all village servants to accept their remuneration in cash or in shape of freedom from assessment on such lands as they held. Most preferred cash remuneration as they

had sold or mortgaged their lands. At the same time, the services of darjis, dhobis, mochis, malis and priests were dispensed with, and their lands resumed.

- d *Political mans* : These were given for political considerations.

46. **ADANIA** — Besides these, there was an extensive alienation of land in the form of mortgage tenure — adania. The patels, in order to raise funds to meet their liabilities, sold (*vechania*) or mortgaged (*gharama*) government lands for trifling sums, guaranteeing total exemption from assessment. The vast extent of such lands in the Mehsana and Baroda districts made a solution of the problem difficult. In their settlement the government followed a liberal policy: they determined to redeem what they had a right to resume. In Mehsana the lands were resumed for a consideration which varied according as alienation dated before or after 1826. In the Baroda district there was much more *vechania* land than *gharama*. The government continued indefinitely, on payment of fixed charges, all such lands acquired before 1826; and those acquired after 1826 were continued for two lives.

47. **NON-RYOTWARI TENURES** — Though ryotwari is the common tenure in the State, two other forms, corresponding to village and zamindari tenures, are also found.

- (i) *The narvadari and bhagdari tenures* : Both these involve a joint responsibility for payment of government revenues. The bhagdari tenure, however, differs from the narvadari in that in the former, each field is separately assessed and the village pays the sum of the field assessments, while in narvadari, the revenue is fixed in the lump on the village. But in neither case does the contribution of the sharers to the revenue bear any relation to the land they hold at present. They continue to bear the same share of the total revenue as originally. The persons cultivating the lands of these villages are tenants, not of government but of the bhagdars. The customary tenants, however, cannot be ejected so long as they pay the customary rental. The government seldom interfere between the bhagdars and the tenants.
- (ii) *Ankdabandi and ekankdi* : In ankdabandi villages a lump sum is assessed on the whole village and recovered from the headman of the village or the whole body of proprietors. In ekankdi villages the government demand is permanently settled. The government did not interfere in the internal fiscal management of such villages till recently. In 1934, however, government found it necessary to enact the

Ankadia Villages' Tenants Act. This measure protects the 'permanent' and 'occupancy' tenants from eviction, so long as they pay the rent and do not commit acts of 'waste.'

Social and economic structure of the State (excluding the attached areas)

48. OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION — The area of the State is 8,176 square miles, and the population 2,855,000. The density of population varies from district to district. It is 418 to the square mile in the Baroda district, 383 in Mehsana, 257 in Navsari, 193 in Amreli and 152 in Okhamandal. The average for the whole State is 349 to the square mile.

The distribution of population between urban and rural is in the ratio of 1:4. The rural population lives in 2,894 villages in which 1,401 have a population of less than 500. There is a marked increase in the number of 'towns' from 50 in 1931 to 64 in 1941. Many of these towns are mere distributing centres, and the increase in the number does not signify corresponding industrial progress. Indeed, the predominance of agriculture as a means of livelihood had yet been little affected and 64.6 per cent of the population are engaged in it. Of the remaining 35.4 per cent, industries absorb 13.3 per cent, exploitation of minerals 0.1, transport 1.9, trade 8.1, professions and liberal arts 3.5, public administration 1.6, public force 1.7, domestic services 1.1, while 0.6 live on their own income, 0.5 are unproductive and 3.0 follow insufficiently described occupations.

49. AGRICULTURE — The agriculturist is the backbone of the State, and the strength of the rural society lies in the large number of proprietor farmers. It is a noteworthy fact that the proportion of these to those living directly on the land is double that in British Gujarat, and four times as high as in the Province of Bombay. The distribution in different grades to 1,000 workers on the land is as follows:—

Non-cultivating proprietor	...	...	17
Cultivating proprietor	...	...	420
Tenant cultivators	...	...	31
Agricultural labourers	...	...	166
Total			634

Making also for the strength of rural economy is the high percentage of earners and working dependents to the population. It is 49.5 per cent in the State as against 42.5 per cent in British Gujarat, 39.2 per cent in the Province of Bombay and 43.6 per cent in India.

The number of women who supplement the income of their families is in Baroda State exceptionally high – 744 to every 1,000, as against 567 in British Gujarat and 428 in the Province of Bombay. In those parts of the country, where custom and caste insist on seclusion of women, such a state of affairs would indicate adverse economic conditions, but in Gujarat no such sentiments prevail, and the large number of women supplementing the income of their families adds strength to the economic structure.

These factors make for the strength of rural economy. On the other hand, there are three main factors which are a source of weakness to the rural society: (i) The first is the inadequacy of the average holding. The average holding in the State is only four acres (in British Gujarat it is five), and the area of crop per head of population is 1.35 acres (British Gujarat 1.36); and this problem is accentuated by fragmentation and subdivision. The measures taken to prevent further subdivision and to consolidate small holdings have been defeated by sentiment, laws of inheritance and succession and absence of diversified occupations. (ii) The second source of weakness is the absence of irrigation facilities. The irrigated area constitutes only 6 per cent of the area of the State – a feature which is common to both the State and British Gujarat. (iii) The excessive number of cattle is another disadvantage. The number of cattle to 100 acres sown is almost double what it should be. In Baroda State it is 46 and in British Gujarat 50, while the area under fodder crops is only 2 per cent of the area sown. These factors, and the unfamiliarity of the farmers with scientific methods of cultivation have affected injuriously the position of the cultivator. His difficulties were increased by the fall in prices in the pre-war years and he became heavily indebted – the extent of his indebtedness cannot be stated with any accuracy, but, as in the rest of India, it was heavy. The rise in prices during recent years has, however, brought him considerable prosperity, as evidenced by the repayment of his debts on a large scale, by larger deposits in co-operative societies and in the savings banks. The government also are taking substantial measures to improve agriculture and to strengthen rural economy. They are pledged to develop co-operative credit. Irrigation works are being constructed all over the State. Large irrigation schemes based on the Saharmati and Zankhari rivers are ready to be taken up as part of the postwar reconstruction programme; the Vijapur tube well irrigation scheme costing in its experimental stage Rs. 10 lakhs is already in operation; on perennial rivers electric installations for pumping water are set up. A comprehensive programme for the improvement of irrigation tanks in the Mehsana district has been recently completed. In the Anreli district, wells are being dynamited to yield larger supplies. Rabari colonies have been established to improve the breed of cattle and increase fodder supply. These and other measures which the State is taking are described in later chapters of the report.

50. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT — Industrially Baroda State is an advanced area in India as shown by the following table:—

				Factory operatives	
				1946	1921
Textile	...	...	...	34,276	8,130
Chemicals	...	...	...	4,396	201
Building industries (including cement, stone quarries, bricks and tiles).				1,803	143
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	3,590	2,739

The total amount of paid up capital of joint stock companies (excluding foreign insurance companies) working in the State has increased from Rs. 152 lakhs in 1921 to Rs. 2,014 lakhs in 1944. A noteworthy feature of this industrial development is that it is broad based. There are eighteen cotton mills, one woollen mill, two cotton and silk weaving factories. There is a large chemical industry, the Tata Chemicals in Okhamandal, the Alembic in Baroda, the Hindusthan Chemical and Colour Works and several other smaller concerns. The cement factory at Dwarka produces about 2,00,000 tons a year and the Okha Salt Works 75,000 tons of salt. There is one match factory, and a number of oil mills.

51. RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS — Almost all religious denominations of India are found in the State. Of the total population, 2,560,000 or 89.34 per cent are Hindus, including 373,000 or 13 per cent Tribal, 224,000 or 7.83 per cent Muslims, 47,000 Jains, 9,500 Christians, 6,900 Parsis, and 2,400 Tribal. The spread of education and of liberal ideas has softened the edges and angularities of different faiths, and created a broad sense of toleration, which has strengthened the tradition of communal harmony in the State.

52. CHILD MARRIAGES — The result of forty two years of the Child Marriage Prevention Act is that marriages below the age of ten are practically non-existent, and child marriages below the penalised age have decreased from 33.2 per cent in 1916-20 to 9.8 per cent in 1945-46, in spite of the age having been raised. The working and effect of this law is reviewed in the chapter on Social and Economic Legislation.

53. LITERACY — Under compulsory education, which has been in force in the State for almost 40 years, literacy has been making steady and substantial progress. It has increased by 50 per cent during the decade 1930-40. There are now 653,000 literates, 482,000 males and 171,000 females and 161,000 partially literate. Thus 285 per mile of the population are literate. On a system of universal primary

education, a fairly widespread system of secondary education has been built up. The literates in English, according to the census of 1941, numbered 56,950 – 52,300 males and 4,650 females. These figures do not bring out two important social consequence of compulsory education. In the State there is an exceptionally large proportion of the backward classes, the Raniparaj, Thakardas, Barias, Kois, etc.; these constitute about 38 per cent. Largely, however, as the result of free and compulsory education, the inequalities seen elsewhere between “backward” and “advanced” communities do not exist in the State. Literacy among the Antyraj is 16.9 per cent as compared with the general literacy of 20.7 per cent and among Muslims it is 30.2 per cent. At the top of the educational scale are Varnias and Brahmans with high rates of literacy, but they form only 8 per cent of the population. Excepting this the literacy amongst the body of the population is fairly evenly spread. This has bridged the gulf between class and class and made relations easier.

The second important social gain of the compulsory system is the advanced state of literacy among the women of the younger generation. Though the census figures show the female literacy to be only 12.4 per cent as against male literacy of 32.8 per cent, the position is really much less unfavourable. Once the initial obstacles imposed by custom were overcome, literacy among women increased rapidly. In the 1930–40 decade, it has shown the remarkable progress of 114.2 per cent as against 35.8 per cent among males and in English education, the even more remarkable progress of 151.9 per cent as against 73.1 per cent for males.

Similarly the number of girls attending primary schools has been for a number of years, in relation to their population, almost equal to that of the boys : 1,61,953 boys and 1,18,078 girls.

The social consequences of this have been important. That the Government have been able to enact social legislation, in advance of the rest of India, is due to a large extent to the influence the educated women exercise in the State.

CHAPTER II

PALACE

54. VISITS ETC. — His Highness the Maharaja Saheb was in England for reasons of health at the beginning of the year. He came back to Baroda by plane via Delhi and Bombay and arriving in Baroda on the 4th October 1945. His Highness' arrival in Baroda was public. This was His Highness' first trip to Europe after accession to the Gadi. As he alighted from the plane at the aerodrome, he was received by the Resident at Baroda, H. E. the Dewan Saheb and other State Officers. From the aerodrome His Highness accompanied by Shri-mant Yuvraja Saheb drove in an open car to the Laxmi Vilas Palace. All along the route he was greeted enthusiastically by throngs of loyal subjects. Over hundred institutions halted the car on the way and presented to His Highness flowers and pansupari.

On 6th October 1945, His Highness addressed a meeting of the Members of the Government and Heads of departments convened at the L. V. Palace. On the following day he left by plane for Ooty reaching the place the same night.

His Highness stayed at Ooty till 26th October 1945. He left the place on the 27th October and after staying at Madras for a few days returned to Bombay on 2nd November 1945. After staying in Bombay for about a fortnight, His Highness returned to Baroda on 15th November 1945.

55. DISTRICT TOURS — With a view to acquainting himself with local conditions His Highness paid visits to Vaghodia and Savli on 20th and 23rd November 1945, and attended Durbars and received addresses of welcome. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb and Her Highness Sitadevi Maharani Saheb visited Navsari district on 18th December 1945 and attended Durbars at Navsari, Gandevi and Palsana and visited Umrath. During this tour His Highness laid the foundation stone of the Science Institute of S. B. Garda College at Navsari, and Her Highness paid a visit to Maharani Chinnabai Mahilashram and donated Rs. 1,000 to the Institution. Their Highnesses then proceeded to Songadh on 22nd December 1945. His Highness attended a Durbar there. Their Highnesses next went to Satkasi for Shikar and returned to Baroda on 31st December 1945.

On November 26th 1945, His Highness addressed a meeting, of Special and Deputy Special Officers of the Attached Areas, convened in his Office in the Secretariat.

The same night His Highness left Baroda for Gwalior, on an invitation from His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior. His Highness presided over the "Founder's Day" celebration of the Scindia School at Gwalior on 29th November.

After staying at Gwalior for about a week, His Highness returned to Baroda by plane on 2nd December 1945.

The 2nd Baroda Infantry, which was on War duty for about four years, returned to Baroda on 13th February 1946. His Highness addressed the men and Officers at the Station and welcomed them on their return to Baroda after a brief and bright spell of active service against the enemy.

On February 16th, 1946, His Highness opened the flower and fruit show at the Public Park arranged under the auspices of the Baroda Co-operative Horticultural Society Ltd.

Accompanied by Her Highness Sitadevi Maharani Saheb His Highness attended the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of H. H. the Agakhan on the 10th March at Bombay.

After staying in Bombay for about three weeks His Highness, accompanied by Her Highness the Junior Maharani Saheb and Maharaja Kumar Sayaji Rao, left for England by plane on 28th March 1946.

Her Highness Shantadevi Maharani Saheb accompanied by Shri-rant Yuvraj Saheb and all the Royal Children visited Dhari on the 21st October 1945. Shrimant Yuvraj Saheb shot a lioness in the jungles of Gir on the 24th October 1945. Her Highness and party then left for Amreli, stayed there upto 27th, visited Dwarka on the 28th, Okha on the 29th and returned to Baroda on the 2nd November 1945. During this tour Her Highness received addresses of welcome at various places.

Her Highness paid a visit to Ujjain and attended the marriage of her brother Shrimant Chandrasenrao Ghorpade on the 6th March 1946.

Her Highness paid a visit to Nar and Petlad on the 4th April 1946 and performed the opening ceremony of the Maternity Home at Nar.

Her Highness and the Royal Children left for Ooty on the 7th April 1946 and returned to Baroda on the 1st July 1946.

Her Highness Shantadevi Maharani Saheb attended several social functions in Baroda and took keen interest in social work done by

various public institutions. The following important functions were performed at the auspicious hands of Her Highness :-

- (1) Opening ceremony of the Hind Vijaya Gymkhana Sports Association, Women's section on 18-11-45.
- (2) Inauguration of Silver Jubilee of the Baroda Women's Association and Exhibition on 8-12-45.
- (3) Opening ceremony of the Marathi Literary Conference held at Baroda on 12-1-46.
- (4) Inauguration of the All India Library Conference, 6th Session held at Baroda on 26-1-46.
- (5) Opening ceremony of the Baroda Women's Sports Association First Session on 27-1-46.
- (6) Prize Distribution ceremony of "the Rashtra Bhasha Pracharak Samitee" held at Baroda on 10-2-46.

Her Highness Sitadevi Maharani Saheb inaugurated the All India Music Conference held at Baroda on the 9th February 1946 and also gave away prizes at the Prize Distribution Ceremony of the Golf Tournament held at Baroda on 13-1-46.

The following Prize Distribution Ceremonies were performed at the auspicious hands of Shrimant Yuvraj Saheb :-

- (1) Hind Vijaya Gymkhana Sports on 26-1-46.
- (2) The Badminton Sports held on the Maharaja Pratapsinh Coronation Gymkhana Ground on 4-3-46.

Shrimant Maharaj Kumari Mrinalini Devi inaugurated the Maharani Shantadevi Talkies on 23-3-46.

56. DISTINGUISHED VISITORS — Brigadier His Highness Farzand-i-Dilband, Rasikh-ul-I'tiquad-i-Daulat-i-Englishia Raja-i-Rajgan, Maharaja Sir Jagjit Singh, Bahadur, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., G. B. E., Maharaja of Kapurthala paid a visit to Baroda in January 1946 to attend the Birth-day Celebrations of His Highness.

His Highness the Rajasaheb of Sawantwadi and His Highness the Maharaja of Dhar paid a visit to Baroda during the Birth-day Celebrations.

Amongst other distinguished visitors were :-

- (1) Air Marshal Sir Rodrick Carr, K. B. E., C. B., D. F. C., A. F. C., Headquarters Delhi.
 - (2) Air Commodore Jarman.
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CHAPTER III

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

57. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL — Sir Brojendra Lal Mitter, K. C. S. I., in his capacity as Minister of the Baroda State, continued as President of the Council.

The other members of the Council in the beginning of the year were:—

Mr. B. A. Gaekwar, (Vice President).

Mr. R. S. Patil (Mane)

Mr. M. V. Desai.

Mr. D. R. Daboo.

Sir R. G. Allan.

On the transfer of Mr. M. V. Desai, Mr. C. J. Sutaria was appointed member of the Council. Mr. S. A. Sudhalkar was appointed in the vacancy created by the sad demise of Mr. B. A. Gaekwar. Sir R. G. Allan retired on the 16th May 1946.

58. TOURS — The Dewan and members toured in the State for 39 days to keep themselves in direct touch with rural areas.

CHAPTER IV

RELATIONS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS

59. GENERAL — The relation of the Baroda Government with the British Government and other Indian States continued to be cordial.

The headquarter of the Residency was transferred from Baroda to Rajkot with effect from 1st May 1946.

60. RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENTS — It was agreed by the Government of India that the reciprocal arrangement subsisting between the Government of India and the Baroda Government, for relief from the incidence of double taxation on income, should continue till the Baroda Government chose to withdraw or until any change in the Baroda State income tax law made continued participation by the Government of India no longer feasible.

The reciprocal arrangement reached with the Government of Bombay last year for the free passage of hackney carriages on roads in the Surat-Navsari areas was extended to the plying of these vehicles on the Navasari-Kaliawadi road upto Kabilpore.

An arrangement was made with the Sirohi State for the surrender of *mudamal* on reciprocal basis.

The Government of India agreed to the programmes and news broadcast from any of the All India radio stations excepting those broadcasts which might be covered by copy rights, being relayed by the Baroda Broadcasting station.

The Baroda Government came to an agreement with the Bombay Government about the passage of high tension overhead electric mains through the limits of the Chikhli taluka of their Surat District in connection with the extension of supply lines from Gandevi to Umra required for irrigation and lighting purposes.

An arrangement was arrived at for remittance by the Bank of Baroda Ltd., to the Reserve Bank of India, instead of to the Residency treasury, of amounts of heavy cash payments relating to refunds etc., payable by the Baroda Government to the Government of India.

The Baroda Government agreed, as a measure of collaboration with the Indian Research Fund Association to inform the Association of any grants that may be sanctioned by them from time to time, for

clinical research in medical and research institutes in the State, and to give facilities for inspection to any representative of the Association.

The Government agreed to participate further in the All India Locust Control Scheme for 1946-47.

61. CONFERENCES ETC—The Government participated in the following conferences :—

- (i) The Indian Roads congress held at Jaipur.
- (ii) The Postwar road and rail development planning conference at the Baroda Residency.
- (iii) The Postwar railway development conference held at the Residency, Indore.
- (iv) The 22nd Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Peshawar.
- (v) The conference relating to the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance etc. held at New Delhi.
- (vi) The 8th Session of the Indian History Congress held at Annamalai Nagar in South India.

The Government continued to have representation on the Advisory Board of Archaeology set up by the Government of India.

62. THANKS—The Baroda Government are thankful to the Railway Board for agreeing to lend the services of Mr. C. W. Clarke of the G. I. P. Rly. for suggesting improvements in the working of the G. B. S. Railways Workshop.

They are also thankful to the Imperial Records Department for giving training to Mr. V. G. Joshi in the keeping of archives.

63. PASSPORTS — During the year, 568 applications for passports were received, 30 for the United Kingdom and the United States of America and the rest for Africa and other places.

64. WAR — The Baroda squadron of the R. A. F. maintained its high record of achievement during the closing period of the war. The Second Baroda Infantry and the Mechanical Transport Section remained on active service. The infantry returned to Baroda in February 1946 after rendering meritorious services at the front.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb donated £.500 for the Christmas and New year gifts to the members of the Baroda Squadron.

The State War Gifts Fund stood at Rs. 2.57 lakhs, while the State investments in the 3 per cent Defence Bonds and interest-free bonds came to Rs. 176.18 lakhs and Rs. 0.25 lakhs respectively. The State's contribution to the War Purposes Fund amounted to Rs. 24.38 lakhs. This fund has been closed since 1st April 1946.

H. E. the Commander in Chief in India expressed his appreciation of the services rendered by the State by the construction and maintenance of the Baroda Air-field.

CHAPTER V

ADMINISTRATION OF ATTACHED AREAS

65. GENERAL — The Baroda State Attached area consisted only the Pethapur taluka up till the passing of the act, 1944 and of those 252 States, talukas and estates which were once included in the Western India States and the Gujarat States Agencies which, in pursuance to the policy enunciated in the Government of India Communique of the 16th April 1943 and later on ratified by the Parliament in the India (Attachment of States) Act of 1944, came to be attached to the Baroda State during the course of 1943. This area underwent a change subsequently because some 24 matadari estates of the Bavishi, the Vatrak-Kantha and the Gadhwada thanas were amalgamated with the Baroda State; they now form an integral part of the State territory. These amalgamated units are:-

Bavishi Thana : — Amraji-na-Muada, Vatwa, Barakhji-na-Muada, Bardoli, Lawad, Harsoli, Palundra, Kalyanji-na-Muada, Dabhoda, Vadodra, Sahebji-na-Muada, Siawada, Salki, Anguthala, Bakhial, Lihoda, Khanpur, Sametri, Kadjodra, and Barmuada.

Vatrak Kantha Thana : — Nirmali and Jeher.

Gadhwada Thana : — Chandap and Gazipur.

Yet two more alterations changed the original composition of the Attached area. The first was on 10th September 1945, when the Magodi taluka, which till then had been attached to the Malpur State, began to be treated as attached direct to the Baroda State. The second alteration came about in November 1945 when the Natwar-nagar taluka became merged into the Khari Bagasra taluka as a result of indirect succession. The Attached area now comprises of 229 units of which 59 are jurisdictional and the rest non-jurisdictional.

The total extent of these areas is approximately 5,985 square miles with a population of 6,63,000 to the nearest thousand according to the 1941 Census.

For the sake of administrative convenience, the whole Attached area has been split up into four territorial divisions as shown below:-

- I. Units attached from the Gujarat States Agency (11 jurisdictionals and 41 non-jurisdictionals). The Mewas attached area.

- II. Units attached from the Sadra division of the Sabarkantha Agency except Sudasna, Valasna, Hadol, Bhalusna, Satlasna, and Gadhwada Thana plus units attached from the Eastern Kathiawar Agency (28 jurisdictionals and 15 non-jurisdictionals). The Mehsana attached area.
- III. Units attached from the Banas division of the Sabar Kantha Agency and Sudasna, Valasna, Hadol, Bhalusna, Satlasna and Gadhwada Thana (10 jurisdictionals and 77 non-jurisdictionals). The Patan attached area.
- IV. Units attached from the Western Kathiawar Agency (10 jurisdictionals and 37 non-jurisdictionals). The Amreli attached area.

The following semi-jurisdictional States continued under management during the year:-

(i) *Misrule*:-Tharad and Ilol.

(ii) *Minority of the ruler*:-Umeta, Agar, Vakhtapur, Maghodi and Satlasna.

(iii) *Other reasons*:-Virampur, Zainabad, Pipalia and Champ-rajpur.

66. JUDICIAL — For the purpose of exercising the residuary civil and criminal jurisdiction of the units attached to the State, courts of the Thandars, Deputy Special Officers and District and Sessions Judges have been organised. The High Court is empowered to hear appeals and supervise the work of the sub-ordinate courts. The proceedings in these courts are conducted in the spirit of the procedural law of British India so far the cases arising in the jurisdictional units are concerned; Baroda State law is followed in regard to the cases from the non-jurisdictional areas.

The following table gives the work of appeals and original cases done by the above courts, excepting the Thandars' courts:-

HIGH COURT						
	First appeals		2nd appeals		Miscellaneous	
	File with arrears	Disposal	File with arrears	Disposal	File with arrears	Disposal
Civil	5	1	7	4	38	30
Criminal	13	12	2	2	76	66

DISTRICT AND SESSIONS COURT

	Regular		Original and Sessions		Miscellaneous	
	File with arrears	Disposal	File with arrears	Disposal	File with arrears	Disposal
Civil	52	41	19	8	73	35
Criminal	27	27	49	45	36	35

DEPUTY SPECIAL OFFICERS COURTS

	Ordinary		Executions		Miscellaneous	
	File with arrears	Disposal	File with arrears	Disposal	File with arrears	Disposal
Civil	101	56	192	133	27	23
Criminal	124	90	...	...	165	154

67. LAW AND ORDER — Law and order was maintained and crime was checked by appropriate measures.

The Police for the Attached area consisted of 122 officers and 338 men, of whom 35 were mounted police. This works out at one Policeman to every 13 sq. miles or 1441 inhabitants. Stricter discipline was enforced and as a result crimes of grave nature fell by 6.17 percent, murders fell from 16 to 3 and burglaries from 87 to 64.

Of the 299 cases disposed of by the courts during the year, 77.9 percent resulted in convictions as against 83.5 percent in the previous year. In 71 percent of the 207 cases of theft, property was recovered.

68. EDUCATION — As only Bhaderwa, Umetha, Wao, Malpur and Mansa have been entrusted with "Education Control" within their jurisdiction, the educational administration of the remaining attached area is conducted by the two Special Officers through three educational inspectors.

During the year, 11 new schools including 4 schools for girls were opened. Measures proved to be beneficial in the State have been introduced gradually in the Attached areas also. Compulsory education was extended to some places, teachers and inspectors were trained, library movement introduced and scouts and physical health activities were encouraged. 17 more primary schools were opened during the year making the total to 339. The number of pupils rose during the year from 19,614 to 20,796 (3,968 girls and 16,828 boys). There were 15 middle schools, 21 composite schools and 10 English classes with 2,416 boys and 96 girls. There were 25 libraries, supported by private enterprise. The expenditure on education rose from Rs. 2.9 lakhs to 3.7 lakhs.

69. **PUBLIC HEALTH** — There are at present 10 dispensaries which are under the direct control of the Baroda Attached Area Administration. These dispensaries and their establishments are under the direct administrative control and supervision of the Special Officers.

A fourth class dispensary was sanctioned for being opened at Vohara in the Mewas Attached Area. The initial and the recurring expenditure of the dispensary will be borne by the Baroda State.

The Sanitary Commissioner and an Assistant are in charge of public health; they also look after the work of vaccination.

70. **PUBLIC WORKS**—The Chief Engineer has been entrusted with the functions connected with public works in the area attached to the State.

The following new works were completed or were under execution during the year:—

(1) A school building at Naswadi and Jhotana, (2) Police constables quarters at Sunthal and Saigam, (3) Ten wells in different villages, (4) a causeway on the Rampura river, Babra thana and (5) three culverts near Derdi.

71. **ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE** — A special branch has been opened in the Accounts department under Accountant General to deal with financial questions and matters arising out of the attached areas administration. Also, an establishment called the Japti Audit personnel has been placed at the disposal of each Special Officer in connection with the auditing of the accounts of the units that might be under the management of the Baroda State for one reason or other.

Apart from the remission of tributes amounting to Rs. 1 lakh, and the contribution from the development funds, the expenditure from Baroda revenues on the administration and social services of the Attached Areas was Rs. 8.2 lakhs.

72. **CHOLERA RELIEF**—Cholera broke out in August of the year in the Pandu thana. Nearly 2,000 anti-cholera vaccine doses were rushed to the affected areas and a Special Medical Officer was detailed to combat the epidemic.

CHAPTER VI

LEGISLATION

Dhara Sabha

73. The Dhara Sabha met twice during the year, each session lasting six days :—

- (i) *March Session* — The first session of the year was held on 25th March 1946. There were 9 official and 3 non-official bills. Of the 9 official bills, 7 were passed and 2 were referred to Select Committees. Of the non-official bills, 2 were referred to Select Committees and 1 was passed. There were 10 motions asking for leave to introduce bills. Out of these, 4 were allowed, 2 were rejected by the House, 2 were ruled out of order, 1 was not pressed as the subject matter of the motion was already under consideration of a Select Committee, and 1 bill could not be discussed as the mover was absent. There were 155 resolutions. Of these, 1 was accepted, 16 were accepted with modifications, 1 was carried, 137 were not pressed or were withdrawn. 139 questions were tabled.
- (ii) *July Session* — The second was the Budget session of the year. It commenced on 22nd July. There were 12 official and 5 non-official bills. Out of the 12 official bills, 7 were passed and 5 referred to Select Committees. Among the bills passed, the Income-tax (Amendment) Bill was an important measure. Two features of the amended Income Tax Act were (1) the limit of taxable income, which was at Rs. 2,000, was raised to Rs. 3,000. This granted considerable relief to the lower middle classes. (2) The rates of taxation were enhanced so as to bring to the State some portion of the huge profits which industrial and commercial concerns had earned during the war. Of the non-official bills, 2 were passed, 2 were referred to Select Committees and one was postponed to the next session. There was a motion asking leave to introduce a bill and it was granted. There were 7 resolutions. Of these, 1 was of a congratulatory

nature, 1 was carried, 1 was accepted with modification and the remaining 4 resolutions were not discussed as the mover was absent. Of the 120 cut-motions tabled, 38 were discussed and the remaining 82 lapsed for want of time. 211 questions were asked.

Legislation

74. ACTS—The following acts were passed:—

(1) THE SALES TAX ACT (NO. 11 OF 1946):—As it was deemed necessary to provide for the levy of a general tax on the sale of goods in the Baroda State, the Sales Tax Act was sanctioned by the Government. The Act was modelled on the lines of Bombay Sales Tax Act with modifications to suit local conditions. The Act was published in the Adnyapatrica on 24-1-1946 in English as well as in Gujarati. The Act was to come into operation from 1st February 1946 but the commencement of the Act was postponed for six months under Secretariat Notification No. 18 dated 31st January 1946.

(2) THE ACTS REPEALING ACT (NO. V OF 1946):—In British India an independent Act was passed to repeal certain Amending Acts relating to war legislation. Similar enactment was passed and published in the Adnyapatrika dated 30-5-46 in order to bring the local law in conformity with the Law in British India.

75. AMENDMENTS — The following Amending Acts were passed:—

- (1) Penal Code (Amendment) Act (No. XV of 1945).
- (2) The Companies (Amendment) Act (No. III of 1946).

76. The following Acts and Rules were applied :—

- (1) The Reciprocity Act (Act No. IX of 1943) of British India was applied to our State with suitable modifications.
- (2) The Reciprocity (South Africa) Rules, 1944.
- (3) The Reciprocity (Natal and Transval) Rules, 1944.
- (4) The Reciprocity (South Africa Local Franchise) Rules, 1944.

77. WAR LEGISLATION — The following Ordinances and Orders relating to war measures were promulgated :

- (1) The Cotton Cloth and Yarn Cess Ordinance 1945.
- (2) The Present War (Definition) Ordinance, 1945.

- (3) The High Denomination Bank Notes (Demonetisation) Ordinance, 1946.
 - (4) The Repealing Ordinance, 1946.
 - (5) The Termination of War (Definition) Ordinance, 1946.
 - (6) The Bearer Promissory Notes (Prohibition of Issue) Ordinance, 1946.
 - (7) The Special Criminal Courts Order, 1945.
 - (8) The Drugs Control Order, 1946.
 - (9) The Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1946.
 - (10) The Tyre Rationing Order, 1946.
 - (11) The Cotton Cloth and Yarn (Control) Order, 1946.
 - (12) The Cloth and Yarn (Export Control) Order, 1946.
 - (13) The Indian Woollen Goods (Control) Order, 1946.
 - (14) The Brass and Copper (Control) Order, 1946.
 - (15) The Flour (Use in soap making) (Prohibition) order 1946.
 - (16) The Newspaper (Control) Order, 1946.
 - (17) The Cotton Textile Sizing and Filling Control Order, 1946.
 - (18) The Commercially Imported Transport Motor Vehicles Control Order, 1946.
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CHAPTER VII

JUSTICE

78. **THE COURTS** — Besides the Huzur Nyaya Sabha and the High Court, there were five district courts and the Okhamandal sessions court, 25 small causes courts, 25 subordinate judges' courts, 5 district magistrates' courts, 25 magistrates' courts and 18 revenue magistrates exercising 2nd and 3rd class magistrial powers and 91 bandobasti magistrates.

There were also five revenue officers exercising civil powers, one village munsiff court and five persons exercising magisterial powers.

79. **SUPERVISION** — In February 1939, the Government systematised their arrangements for regular supervision and inspection of courts and scrutiny of the judgments of munsiff - magistrates. At first, an additional judge of the high court was entrusted with this work, but later it was distributed among all the judges of the high court. During the year, the judges scrutinised several contested cases disposed of by magistrates, some of which were taken in revision. This scrutiny has been of educative value, specially in the case of junior magistrates.

80. **INCOME AND EXPENDITURE** — The income of civil and criminal courts rose from Rs. 7.8 lakhs to Rs. 10.41 lakhs and the expenditure from Rs. 8.8 to 9.32 lakhs.

81. **HUZUR NYAYA SABHA** — The following statement shows the work done by the Huzur Nyaya Sabha :—

Nature of work	File including arrears		Disposal		Pending at the end of the year	
	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45
CIVIL						
Appeals ...	24	32	2	15	22	17
Extraordinary applications ...	130	142	61	89	69	53
Review applications ...	2	3	1	1	1	2
CRIMINAL						
Appeals ...	75	32	54	20	21	10
Extraordinary applications ...	23	106	9	87	14	19

During the year under report 64 civil cases were disposed of. Out of these, 11 cases were disposed of by the Legal Remembrancer prima-facie and 53 by the Huzur Nyayasabha. The recommendations of the Huzur Nyayasabha were accepted fully in all cases.

During the year 63 criminal cases were disposed of. Out of these, 6 cases were disposed of prima-facie by the Legal Remembrancer and 57 cases by the Huzur Nyayasabha. The recommendations of the Huzur Nyaya Sabha were accepted in all cases. The decisions of the High Court were upheld in 12 cases and modified in 2 cases.

82. KHATANIHAYA SADAR ADALAT — The Khatanihaya Sadar Adalat is the highest departmental tribunal for the disposal of appeals and applications against decisions of heads of departments, ministers and the Council. Its decisions to allow appeals or applications are submitted to His Highness in form of recommendations for final orders. During the year, it disposed of 92 appeals, 59 revision applications and 2 review applications. The recommendations of the Sadar Adalat were accepted wholly in 59 cases, partly in 6 cases and rejected in 7 cases :—

Civil justice

83. LITIGATION — The number of suits instituted and disposed of in 1944-45 and 1945-46 is given below :—

Year		File with arrears	Disposal	Pending cases	Pending for more than a year	
					Ordinary suits	Regular appeals
1945-46...	...	30,033	20,771	9,262	1,282	88
1944-45...	...	31,087	22,958	9,129	1,065	89

84. DURATION — The average duration of civil cases in the courts is shown below :—

Nature of work			Average duration in days	
			1945-46	1944-45
HIGH COURT				
First appeals	...	...	198	190
Second appeals	...	...	190	220
DISTRICT COURTS				
Regular appeals	...	...	198	215
Ordinary suits	...	...	708	726
MUNSIFFS' COURTS				
Ordinary suits	...	...	178	187
Small Cause suits	...	...	65	70

In the High Court, the average duration in the disposal of first appeals has slightly increased but there is a substantial reduction in the duration of second appeals.

The average duration of ordinary suits and regular appeals in the district courts has decreased. The average duration of suits in the munsiffs' courts has also gone down.

85. THE HIGH COURT — The following table shows the civil work in the high court :—

Year		File with arrears	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
FIRST APPEALS				
1945-46	...	127	67	60
1944-45	...	111	61	50
SECOND APPEALS				
1945-46	...	612	358	254
1944-45	...	603	373	230
MISCELLANEOUS APPEALS				
1945-46	...	70	51	19
1944-45	...	50	36	14

86. DISTRICT COURTS — The following table shows the civil work in district courts :—

Year		File with arrears	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
REGULAR APPEALS				
1945-46	...	1,830	1,094	736
1944-45	...	1,669	1,033	636
MISCELLANEOUS APPEALS				
1945-46	...	144	105	39
1944-45	...	220	181	39
ORDINARY CIVIL SUITS				
1945-46	...	369	113	256
1944-45	...	347	138	209
MISCELLANEOUS CASES				
1945-46	...	775	575	200
1944-45	...	652	433	219
EXECUTION WORK				
1945-46	...	141	69	72
1944-45	...	132	49	83

87. **MUNSIFF AND SMALL CAUSES COURTS** — Civil work in munsiff and small causes courts is shown below :—

Year		File with arrears	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
ORDINARY SUITS				
1945-46	...	11,969	7,217	4,752
1944-45	...	11,250	6,574	4,676
SMALL CAUSES SUITS				
1945-46	...	7,507	5,891	1,616
1944-45	...	10,232	8,530	1,702
MISCELLANEOUS CASES				
1945-46	...	5,258	4,112	1,146
1944-45	...	5,637	4,491	1,146
EXECUTION APPLICATIONS IN ORDINARY SUITS				
1945-46	...	8,012	4,837	3,175
1944-45	...	9,373	5,826	3 547
EXECUTION APPLICATIONS IN SMALL CAUSES SUITS				
1945-46	...	4,733	3,783	950
1944-45	...	5,745	4,639	1,106

88. **VILLAGE MUNSIFFS** — The village munsiff court at Limbodra, Kalol taluka, worked satisfactorily. It disposed of 4 cases. The average duration of suits was 26 days.

Criminal justice

89. **CRIMINAL WORK** — The total number of cases including arrears fell from 38,248 to 37,354; there were 3,853 cases pending as against 4,030 in the previous year.

90. **HIGH COURT** — The following table shows the criminal work in the High Court :—

Year		File with arrears	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
FIRST APPEALS				
1945-46	...	87	71	16
1944-45	...	114	102	12
SECOND APPEALS				
1945-46	...	64	60	4
1944-45	...	86	85	1
ACQUITTAL APPEALS				
1945-46	...	129	117	12
1944-45	...	165	134	31
REFERRED CASES				
1945-46	...	21	16	5
1944-45	...	26	23	3
REVISION CASES				
1945-46	...	196	170	26
1944-45	...	254	227	27

91. DISTRICT COURTS — The following table shows the criminal work in district courts :—

	Appeals		Miscellaneous appeals		Sessions cases		Miscellaneous applications	
	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45
File with arrears ...	475	474	51	46	255	227	481	562
Disposal ...	410	407	47	42	219	175	460	541
Pending ...	65	67	4	4	36	52	21	21

92. MAGISTRATES' COURTS — The following statement shows the criminal work in magistrates' courts :—

Year		File with arrears	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
ORIGINAL CRIMINAL CASES				
1945-46	...	29,909	26,585	3,324
1944-45	...	29,760	26,371	3,389
MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATIONS				
1945-46	...	5,616	5,280	336
1944-45	...	6,386	5,969	417

93. DURATION — In the High Court, the duration of first appeals was 68 days as against 137 in the previous year, of second appeals 20 days as against 32 and of acquittal appeals 41 days as against 87. In sessions courts the duration of sessions cases rose from 73 to 92 days and of criminal appeals decreased from 55 to 18. In magistrates' courts, inspite of the marked decrease in the number of cases on file, the duration of cases was the same as last year.

Registration

94. DOCUMENTS REGISTERED — The number of documents registered during the year was 53,736 and their total value Rs. 600.6 lakhs as compared to 58,768 documents of the value of Rs. 588.0 lakhs in the previous year. This shows a decrease in the number of documents registered, but a rise in the value of property, a result of the high prices of agricultural produce.

The documents registered by Co-operative Societies and Agricultural Banks, which were exempted from stamp duty and registration fees numbered 866 and the remission thus granted amounted to Rs. 18,158.

The gross receipts from registration fees decreased from Rs. 3.23 lakhs to Rs. 3.09 lakhs. The expenditure of the department was Rs. 0.80 lakh and the net income decreased from Rs. 2.36 lakhs to Rs. 2.29 lakhs.

95. RECORD OF RIGHTS — The Record of Rights Act has been in force in the Karajan taluka of the Baroda District since 1932. The sub-registrar, Karjan sends to the revenue authorities monthly lists of registered documents for each village. During the year, 477 lists were sent to the revenue authorities.

CHAPTER VIII

LAW AND ORDER

96. GENERAL — Law and order continued to prevail in the State and there were no serious breaches of the peace. Strikes in textile mills were called for precautionary measures but these were settled and no incidents occurred.

The influence of the general political awakening and the social and economic consequences of the war were increasingly felt, but the general tone of the local press continued to be one of loyalty to the Baroda and the British Governments. The main topics of discussion in the local press were constitutional reforms leading to responsible government in the State, local problems relating to civil supplies administration and its working, the difficulties of the clerical and other low grade servants and corruption.

The police

97. STRENGTH AND DISTRIBUTION — The strength of the police force of the State was 1,065 officers and 4,148 men. In addition, there were 122 officers and 338 men for the Attached Areas.

The total cost of the department was Rs. 18·62 lakhs as against Rs. 18·45 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure on the district police amounted to Rs. 17·76 lakhs as against Rs. 17·18 lakhs.

The proportion of the number of police to the area is 1 policeman to 0·021 square miles in Baroda City, 1·09 square miles in the Baroda district, 2·86 square miles in the Navsari district, 2·04 square miles in the Mehsana district, 2·16 square miles in the Amreli district and 11·45 square miles in the Attached Areas.

98. EDUCATION — The percentage of men able to read and write was 80·11 as against 79·37 in the preceding year. This percentage in the Attached Areas was 58·35 as against 55·58. The percentage of literacy among the State police has suffered owing to the difficulties in getting good recruits to fill up vacancies.

New recruits are regularly trained at District Headquarters and are sent out when they pass the Recruit Course. Their training is also continued in the talukas' headquarters where regular parades and inspections are held. Special attention is paid to drill, discipline and outdoor games.

99. PUNISHMENTS AND REWARDS — The percentage of punishment was 14·97 as against 20·0. The percentage in the Attached Areas was 22·88 as against 13·89.

248 members of the police force were given money rewards as against 242. Special promotions were given to 11 members as against 12 in the preceding year. Besides this, 13 members of the village police and 42 persons from the public were given money rewards, as against 25 and 38 respectively in the preceding year.

In the Attached Areas 23 members of the police force, 7 members of the village police and 7 persons from the public were given money rewards as against 42, 6 and 5 respectively in the preceding year. Besides one member was given special promotion as against nil.

Crime

100. CRIME — The total number of cognisable offences reported to the State police was 3,887, while those reported to the police of the Attached Areas was 534.

The following table shows the fluctuations in the number of crimes reported to the police:—

Year	Baroda City	Baroda Dist.	Mehsana Dist.	Navsari Dist.	Amreli Dist.	Total	Baroda A. A.	Mehsana A. A.	Amreli A. A.	Total
1945-46	527	790	1,954	263	353	3,887	170	293	71	534
1944-45	552	821	1,447	255	396	3,471	146	278	121	545
1943-44	573	952	1,537	386	322	3,770	137	323	138	598
1942-43	518	1,283	1,418	519	354	4,092	...	...	...	...
1941-42	387	984	1,188	424	300	3,283	...	...	...	...

The percentage of detection to the total number of cognisable crimes was 87·99 as against 83·30 in the previous year. The number of persons arrested was 6,561 as against 7,168, and that of Attached Area was 879 as against 846.

The total number of cases sent to the courts for disposal was 3,948 as against 3,511 in the preceding year. Of these, 612 were compounded or withdrawn, 1,903 ended in conviction, 637 in acquittal and 796 were pending with the magistrates.

101. INCREASE OR DECREASE IN CRIME — The following tables show the number of crimes under each of the three main classes in the

State, and its increase or decrease as compared with that of the previous year :—

District	1945-46	1944-45	Difference
CLASS I. OFFENCES AGAINST PERSON			
Baroda City	59	52	+7
Baroda Dist... ..	156	177	-21
Mehsana Dist... ..	371	312	+61
Nasari Dist	57	59	-2
Amreli Dist	60	6	+54
Total	703	566	+137

CLASS II. OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY			
Baroda City	264	286	-22
Baroda Dist	345	355	-10
Mehsana Dist... ..	674	671	+3
Nasari Dist	115	135	-20
Amreli Dist	125	172	-47
Total	1,529	1,619	-90

CLASS III. MISCELLANEOUS			
Baroda City	204	207	-3
Baroda Dist	286	239	+47
Mehsana Dist... ..	909	466	+443
Nasari Dist	88	61	+27
Amreli Dist	163	154	+9
Total	1,659	1,137	+522

The percentage of crimes under each of the three classes to the total number of crimes was as follows :—

Class I.	18.09	as against 19.16
Class II.	39.33	as against 46.64
Class III.	42.58	as against 34.20

102. OFFENCES AND DISPOSAL — Besides 3,887 cases reported to the police of the State during the year, 2 cases were taken up from the dormant file; 1,961 (1,093 with the police and 868 with the magistrates) cases were pending at the beginning of the year. These cases were dealt with as under :—

103. GRAVE CRIMES—The number of grave crimes reported decreased from 1,357 to 1,332. There was a decrease in the number of murders by 5, in dacoities by 20 and in thefts by 15.

The following statement shows the result of cases of grave crimes dealt with by the courts:—

Kind of cases	Cases reported	Cases tried	Convictions	Percentage of convictions	
				1945-46	1944-45
Murder and culpable homicide.	55	78	44	56.41	61.5
Dacoity	...	26	30	43.33	63.2
Robbery	...	39	36	55.55	58.8
Burglary	...	576	221	65.16	65.9
Thefts	...	606	381	54.07	58.1

104. PROPERTY STOLEN — The number of cases of stolen property reported to the police was 1,179 as against 1,505 in the previous year. The percentage of cases, in which property was recovered to cases reported, was 48.43 as against 43.12 in the previous year. Cattle lifting and depredations of cattle continued to cause anxiety. These crimes are due to economic causes and the abnormal price of cattle.

105. CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT — The criminal investigation department investigated a number of important cases of organised cheating, fraud, theft, murder and conspiracy. It assisted in the work connected with the Defence of India Act, the Registration of Foreigners Act and similar measures.

106. FINGER-PRINT BUREAU — The finger-print bureau had 25,058 slips on record. The number of slips sent by foreign Finger Print Bureaus as well as local police officers for inquiry was 1,770 of which 1,642 related to cases in the State, and 163 were traced. Expert finger print evidence was given in nine cases.

107. CRIMINAL TRIBES ACT — The policy of exempting villages from the operation of the Act, on condition that the panchayats accept responsibility for seeing that no crime was committed in the village or that crimes, if committed, were reported, has met with marked success. In 1939 when this policy was first adopted, there were 12 villages to which the Act applied, all in the Mehsana district.

Side by side with this, measures like the opening of rural reconstruction centres, sinking wells to extend cultivation, opening schools, and the like, have been undertaken in these areas to consolidate the improvement. In Chhabalia village alone, where there were only four wells in 1938, 40 new wells were sunk. Tagavi has also been liberally given for the extension of cultivation. These measures have been so far successful that the number of crimes in the Mehsana district has decreased during the last ten years by almost 50 per cent from 2,636 to 1,447.

Extradition

108. EXTRADITION DEMANDS—The Baroda Government made extradition demands in 181 cases, as against 126 in the previous year, and received demands from the British districts and Indian States in 187 cases, as against 142 in the preceding year. During the year, 187 persons involved in 102 cases were surrendered to Baroda, while the State surrendered 176 persons in 120 cases to British India and 105 persons in 70 cases to Indian States.

Of 257 persons charged during the year, 53 persons in 23 cases were discharged, 72 persons in 38 cases acquitted, 80 persons in 54 cases convicted, and 1 person in 1 case dealt with otherwise. At the end of the year, 51 persons in 78 cases were awaiting trial.

Prisons

109. NUMBER OF PRISONERS—The following table shows the number of prisoners, males and females, during the year :—

Year	No. of prisoners at the commencement of the year		New admissions		Total		Number discharged		Number at the end of the year	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1945-46	1,248	30	4,531	89	5,779	119	4,507	92	1,272	27
1944-45	1,225	22	4,596	111	5,821	133	4,573	103	1,248	30

Of the total 4,914 prisoners admitted, 1,936 were convicts and the rest were undertrials, civil prisoners, lunatics etc. The daily average number of prisoners in jails and lock-ups was 1,406 as against 1,404 in the previous year.

110. SHORT TERM SENTENCES—Out of 1,936 convicts during the year, 184 were sentenced to terms not exceeding one month and 193 to term exceeding one month but below three months.

111. HABITUALS—Out of 1,936 convicts admitted during the year, 40 or 2.0 per cent were habituals. Their conduct was satisfactory and no corporal punishment had to be inflicted.

112. HEALTH—The jail population on the whole enjoyed good health. The daily average number of sick prisoners increased from 11.76 to 31.1. The number of deaths increased from 4 to 16 and the death ratio per thousand on average strength of prisoners increased from 2.8 to 11.3. Of the prisoners released during the year, 56.2 per cent had gained weight.

113. ADULT EDUCATION — At the commencement of the year there were 52 prisoners in the Central Jail school and 10 prisoners were newly admitted showing the total strength of the school at 62. Out of these, 17 prisoners left the school after acquiring literacy and 45 remained at the end of the year.

114. CONDITIONAL RELEASE OF PRISONERS — The system of releasing prisoners on probation continued and 47 prisoners were released during the year.

115. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure during the year, excluding police guards and military, amounted to Rs. 2.96 lakhs as against Rs. 3.14 lakhs in the preceding year.

The total net income from jails and lock-ups, during the year, amounted to Rs. 0.63 lakh as against Rs. 0.56 lakh in the preceding year.

The net cost to Government for jails and lock-ups was thus Rs. 2.33 lakhs as against Rs. 2.58 lakhs in the preceding year. The average cost per prisoner was Rs. 165.8 as against Rs. 183.8 in the preceding year.

CHAPTER IX

THE ARMY

116. STRENGTH AND MAINTENANCE COST OF THE REGULAR FORCE — The fixed strength of the State regular forces is 3,389; its actual strength and the cost of maintenance is shown below:—

Description of the force	Actual strength	Cost	
		1945-46	1944-45
		Rs. in lakhs	
Cavalry	659	9.32	8.63
Infantry ¹	2,416	15.54	16.54
Band	60	0.42	0.39
Chief of the military staff and staff officers.	5	1.63	0.96
Medical ... ..	...	0.37	0.32
Veterinary ... ..	...	0.16	0.17
Total	3,140	27.44	27.01

* Non-effectives have not been included in these figures.

¹ The artillery has been amalgamated with the Baroda detachment as an ordnance platoon.

The annual average cost of each effective in the cavalry was Rs. 1,414, in the infantry Rs. 644 and in the band Rs. 691. The average cost of an effective in the force taken together was Rs. 874 or about Rs. 74 per month.

117. STRENGTH OF THE IRREGULAR FORCE — The following table shows the total fixed strength of the irregular force:—

<i>Horse</i>					<i>Foot</i>		
Shilledars	Shibandi	Paganihaya	Khalsa	Total	Shibandi	Khalsa	Total
908	383	182	577	2,050	1,139	667	1,806

The expenditure on the irregular force was Rs. 0.82 lakh as against Rs. 0.68 lakh in the preceding year.

118. DISCIPLINE AND EFFICIENCY — The discipline and efficiency of the troops were maintained and their practical training improved.

119. EXPENDITURE — An annual grant of Rs. 20·0 lakhs for maintenance and of Rs. 2·5 lakhs for pensions and gratuities has been sanctioned. During the war, however, an additional sum of Rs. 10·67 lakhs for the year was allotted to meet the increased maintenance expenses.

The expenditure for the year was Rs. 28·26 lakhs as against Rs. 27·7 lakhs for maintenance, and Rs. 2·26 lakhs as against Rs. 1·96 lakhs on pensions and gratuities.

CHAPTER X

FINANCE

126. ESTIMATES — The budget for the year estimated the revenue at Rs. 404.00 lakhs, the expenditure at Rs. 403.70 lakhs and anticipated a surplus of Rs. 0.30 lakh. The year, however, proved better than anticipated. The receipts were Rs. 450.74 lakhs or Rs. 46.74 lakhs more than anticipated. The expenditure was Rs. 379.29 lakhs or Rs. 24.41 lakhs less than the estimates. The year closed with a surplus of Rs. 71.45 lakhs.

121. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE — The revenue of the year was Rs. 16.48 lakhs more than that of the preceding year. The details and the reasons for the variation are given below. In regard to commercial departments — railways, electric, ports and the press — only the net revenue has been shown :—

RECEIPTS (actuals)

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

S. No.	Head		1945-46	1944-45	Increase or decrease
1	Land revenue	...	101.87	102.64	— 0.77
2	Taxes	...	80.08	103.42	— 23.34
3	Forests	...	15.02	13.52	+ 1.50
4	Excise	...	86.41	74.27	+ 12.14
5	Opium	...	4.72	5.86	— 1.14
6	Customs	...	36.92	20.28	+ 16.64
7	Salt	...	0.2	5.70	— 5.68
8	Stamps	...	18.64	18.36	+ 0.28
9	Registration	...	3.09	3.23	— 0.14
10	Revenue realised under Motor Vehicles Tax	...	...	0.79	— 0.79

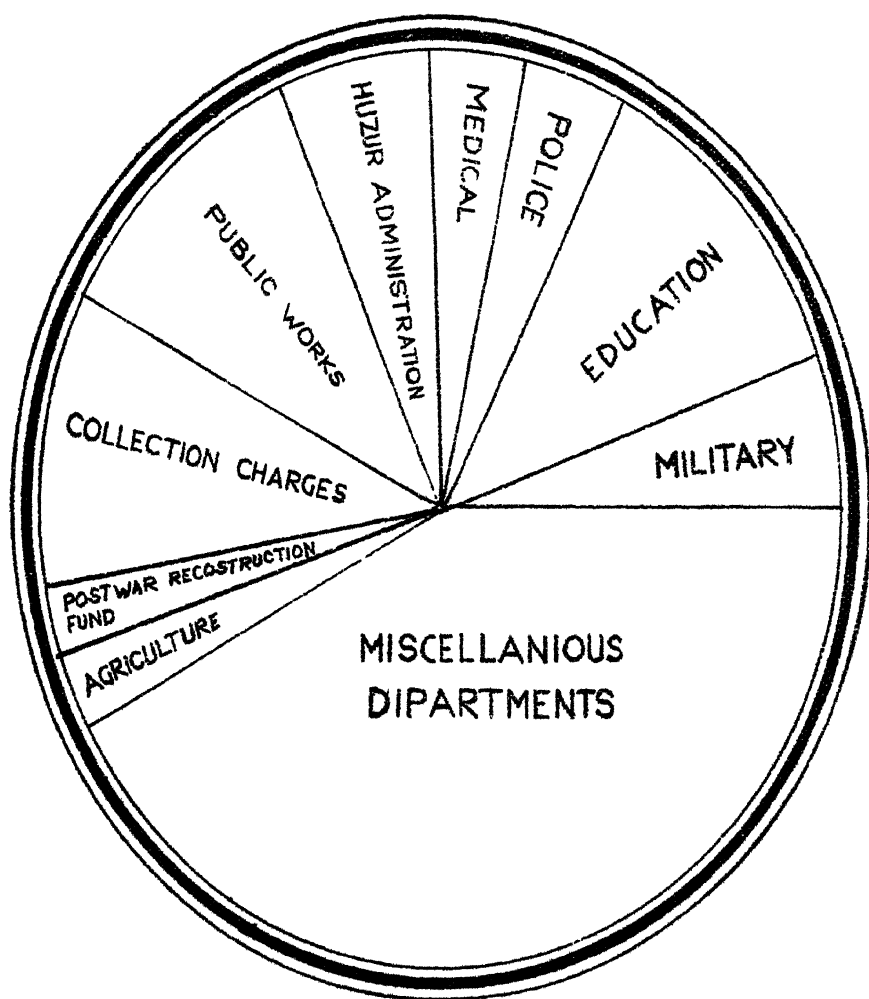
S. No	Head	1945-46	1944-45	Increase or decrease
11	Tribute ...	0'02	2'23	— 1'36
12	Revenue of 'B' class municipalities	0'26	0'27	— 0'01
13	Revenue of village panchayats ...	2'47	2'44	+ 0'03
14	Interest ...	33'31	29'47	+ 3'84
15	Railways ...	23'31	23'20	+ 0'11
16	Electric ...	1'58	1'74	— 0'16
17	Telephone ...	0'55	...	+ 0'55
18	Irrigation ...	0'05	0'02	+ 0'03
19	Port ...	0'30	0'75	— 0'45
20	Press ...	— 0'39	— 0'28	+ 0'11
21	Furniture Factory ...	...	...	...
22	Dairy ...	0'19	0'16	+ 0'03
23	Central Administration ...	1'88	0'94	+ 0'94
24	Judicial ...	4'22	1'77	+ 2'45
25	Police ...	0'49	0'57	— 0'08
26	Jail ...	0'39	0'49	— 0'10
27	Military ...	0'11	0'09	+ 0'02
28	Sanitation ...	0'51	0'50	+ 0'01
29	Medical ...	1'62	2'56	— 0'94
30	Education ...	6'67	6'13	+ 0'54
31	Agriculture ...	1'41	2'24	— 0'83
32	Commerce, industries, cooperative and statistics.	0'96	1'15	— 0'19
33	Public Works ...	2'32	3'41	— 1'09
34	Miscellaneous ...	2'30	2'22	+ 0'08
35	Profit derived from conversion of securities.	11'54	4'07	+ 7'47
36	Receipts from funds	7'00	7'00	...
	Total ...	450'74	441'26	+ 9'48

The reasons for the more important variations in receipts as compared with those of the preceding year are given below :—

Head	Variation in lakhs of Rs.	Reasons
Land Revenue	—00.77	Mainly due to less sale in padtār land.
Taxes.	—23.34	Mainly due to less receipt under Income-tax and Supertax.
Forest.	1.50	Mainly due to more receipts under timber.
Excise.	12.14	Mainly due to more receipt under sale of liquor and poisonous drugs.
Opium.	— 1.14	On account of less consumption due to the introduction of ration.
Customs.	16.64	Due to refund allowed on duty on petrol consumed for defence services.
Salt.	— 5.68	Due to salt duty not being received from the Government of India during 1945–46. It was received in August 1946.
Revenue realised under motor Vehicle Act.	— 0.79	Adjustment has been carried out this year.
Tribute.	— 1.36	(a) More arrears were received in the year 1944–45 (b) The question of police subsidy and contingent army expenses payable to Government of India is still under correspondence.
Interest.	3.84	Due to new investments.

Head	Variation in lakhs of Rs.	Reasons
Telephone.	0.55	Recently separated from the Electric department.
Central Administration.	0.94	Due to increase in (1) Kirkol (2) receipt of contribution towards the cost of establishment from the attached areas.
Judicial.	2.45	Due to more receipts under fines.
Medical.	— 0.94	Due to less contributions received from public.
Education.	0.54	Due to more receipts in fees in Arts and Commerce Colleges and Kirkol receipts.
Agriculture.	— 0.83	Due to less receipts under boring works and other miscellaneous items.
Public Works.	— 1.09	Due to less receipts (1) under sale of land and materials (2) share of petrol duty for public roads (amount not received this year).
Profits derived from conversion of securities.	7.47	Due to profits derived from conversion of (i) shares of Tata Chemicals worth Rs. 5.41 lakhs. (ii) shares of Gandevi Sugar works worth Rs. 1.20 lakhs. (iii) shares of Tata ordinaries worth Rs. 3.00 lakhs, and (iv) Government of India Loan 1947-50 worth Rs. 1.00 lakh.

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE PROPORTION
OF
EXPENDITURE ON VARIOUS HEADS



EXPENDITURE (actuals)
(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

S. No.	Head	1945-46	1944-45	Increase or decrease
1	Land Revenue ...	22.15	21.71	+ 0.44
2	Contribution to Land Revenue equalisation fund.	6.50	7.37	- 0.77
3	Taxes ...	1.17	1.06	+ 0.11
4	Forest ...	1.59	1.41	+ 0.18
5	Excise ...	2.23	2.15	- 0.08
6	Opium ...	6.22	0.46	+ 5.76
7	Customs ...	0.23	0.26	- 0.03
8	Salt ...	...	...	...
9	Stamp ...	0.33	0.62	- 0.29
10	Registration ...	0.50	0.72	+ 0.03
11	Income to be given to "D" class municipalities	0.27	0.27	...
12	Income to be given to village panchayats	2.40	3.27	- 0.87
13	Interest ...	11.30	10.58	+ 0.72
14	Railways ...	...	...	...
15	Electric ...	...	...	...
16	Irrigation ...	0.13	0.08	+ 0.05
17	Dairy ...	1.63	1.01	+ 0.62
18	Civil List including Shri. Yuvaraj Saheb's budget	27.27	23.00	+ 4.27
19	Central Administration ...	29.95	26.67	+ 3.28
20	Judicial ...	6.36	5.93	+ 0.43
21	Police ...	15.64	15.78	- 0.14
22	Payment in lieu of contingent ...	...	...	...
23	Jail ...	1.88	1.82	+ 0.06
24	Army ...	22.50	27.50	- 5.00
25	Sanitation ...	1.65	1.37	+ 0.28
26	Medical ...	13.92	12.16	+ 1.76
27	Education ...	44.85	42.30	+ 2.55

S. No.	Head	1945-46	1944-45	Increase or decrease
25	Agriculture ...	10'90	10'17	+ 0'73
26	Commerce and Industries ...	2'19	1'67	+ 0'52
27	Statistics ...	0'25	0'21	+ 0'04
28	Emigration ...	0'22	0'17	+ 0'05
29	Co-operative ...	0'83	0'77	+ 0'11
30	Public Works ...	43'38	32'90	+10'48
31	Miscellaneous ...	39'22	67'12	-28'90
		Actuals 1945-46	Actuals 1944-45	
	Unemployment ...	0'11	0'20	
	Immigration ...	8'69	6'41	
3	Entertainment to State guests	0'34	0'38	
4	Conference Exhibitions and Experiments	0'09	0'07	
5	Other expenditure ...	1'67	1'57	
6	Compassionate fund ...	...	...
7	War miscellaneous ...	27'32	55'19	
		<u>35'22</u>	<u>67'12</u>	
1	Post War Re-construction ...	12'00		
2	Military ...	8'26		
3	Other departments, Police etc.	7'05		
	Total ...	<u>27'32</u>		
35	Loss in conversion of securities	...	...	...
36	Expenditure from the income of funds	7'0	7'0	...
37	Ecclesiastical ...	2'16	1'98	+ 0'18
38	Cash Grant ...	8'80	9'80	- 1'00
39	Civil Pension ...	10'51	9'86	+ 0'65
40	Subsidy to local Boards ...	2'56	2'32	+ 0'24
41	State Ceremonials ...	0'32	...	+ 0'32
42	Famine Relief ...	30'63	29'11	+ 1'52
	Total ...	379'29	380'78	- 1'49

The reasons for the more important variations in expenditure as compared with those of the preceding year are as shown below :—

Head	Variation in lakhs of Rs.	Reasons
Land Revenue.	00.44	Due to revision of grades of talaties and increase in contingency grants.
Contribution to land revenue equalisation fund.	—00.77	The amount varies in proportion to the revenue realised.
Opium.	5.76	Due to more amount required for the purchase of opium juice to meet the demands of attached areas etc.
Income to be given to village panchayats.	—8.87	Due to less income of village panchayats last year.
Interest.	0.72	Every year there are accretions to the various funds and savings banks deposits.
Civil List.	+27	Due to provisions for trips abroad.
Central Administration.	3.28	Due to full effect of revision of grades in Central Administration including Attached Areas.
Army.	—5.00	Due to additional grant sanctioned for buildings last year.
Medical.	1.76	Due to amount required for preliminary expenses of Medical College.
Education.	2.55	Due to revision of grades and preliminary expenditure on Visnagar College.
Agriculture.	0.73	More expenditure under various schemes and Veterinary dispensaries.
Commerce and Industries.	0.52	Due to expenditure for opening Sales depot.

Head	Variation in lakhs of Rs.	Reasons
Public Works.	10.48	Mainly due to cost of acquiring land for the Aerodrome.
Miscellaneous.	—28.94	Mostly due to decrease in provisions for contribution to Post War Reconstruction.
Cash Grants.	—1.00	Due to less payments.
Civil pension.	0.65	Due to increase in the number of pensioners.
Famine relief.	1.52	Due to increase in the scale of dearness allowance.

122. TRIBUTE — The following table shows the demand, collections and arrears of tribute:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Agency	Past arrears	Demand				Remarks	
			Demand for the current year	Total demand	Collection	Arrears		
			(Figures in lakhs of rupees)					
1	Gujarat	...	0.46	0.76	1.22	0.01	1.21	
2	Western India	...	7.52	3.80	11.32	0.39	10.93	
3	Rajputana	...	0.46	0.41	0.87	0.41	0.46	
4	Miscellaneous	...	...	0.11	0.11	0.11	...	
Total		...	8.44	5.08	13.52	0.92	12.60	

123. LAND REVENUE EQUALISATION FUND — Land revenue forms a main source of income to the State and the seasonal vicissitudes have their repercussions on this income. To offset the adverse effects of these on the budget estimates, a Land Revenue Equalisation Fund was created in 1939-40 by the transfer of Rs. 50.0 lakhs from past balances. This year Rs. 6.80 lakhs have been credited to this fund and the fund now stands at Rs. 96.98 lakhs.

124. ASSETS AND LIABILITIES — The assets and liabilities at the end of the year as compared with those of the previous year were as follows:—

Particulars	1943-44	1944-45
	Rs.	Is.
1. Cash Balances,—		
(i) In current accounts with Banks.	70,33,303	60,90,341
(ii) In Treasuries	29,25,782	22,75,104
(iii) Fixed Deposits.	5,81,58,205	3,95,83,945
	<u>6,90,90,297</u>	<u>4,88,58,390</u>
2. Loans and Advances —	1,57,75,578	2,57,82,253
3. Capital Accounts:—		
(1) Investments Permanent Capital Works	7,56,30,170	7,34,54,237
(2) Securities	9,53,41,445	8,41,67,600
	<u>25,58,37,500</u>	<u>23,22,59,489</u>
Total Assets.		
	<u>11,83,39,672</u>	<u>10,19,67,140</u>
Less Liabilities		
	<u>13,74,47,521</u>	<u>13,03,02,340</u>
Net Assets		
Increase in Net Assets.	71,45,472	

Out of the net assets of the State of Rs. 13.74 crores at the end of the year, Rs. 5.91 crores represent capital invested in Railways, Rs. 42.0 lakhs in Electric Works and Rs. 51.0 lakhs in Okha and other ports.

The increase in liabilities is mainly in the deposits, funds and State Savings Bank deposits etc.

Of the current assets amounting to Rs. 9.53 crores, Rs. 3.50 crores are set apart for the reserve fund and Rs. 96 lakhs for land revenue equalisation fund. Interest earned on the reserve fund is utilised for providing capital expenditure.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE

125. SEASON — The rainfall during the year was heavy in all the districts; even Okhamandal which generally receives scanty rains i. e. about 7 inches, had an unprecedented rainfall of 47·17 inches. The following table gives the details :—

District	Decennial average	1945-46	1944-45
Baroda	38'50	57'42	51'83
Mehsana	25'86	29'0	38'0
Navsari	53'32	92'30	81'53
Amreli	20'31	31'80	31'83
Okhamandal	16'62	47'17	40'9

126. PRICES OF FOOD STUFFS — The following table shows the prices of chief agricultural commodities during the year (the figures represent the number of seers sold per rupee, one seer being equal to 40 tolas).

District	Rice		Bajri		Juwar		Pulses		Wheat	Remarks
	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45
Baroda ...	6	4	6	4	8	4	7	5	6	3
Mehsana ...	5	4	7	7	8	8	7	7	6	6
Navsari ...	5	5	5	8	6	6	5	5	3	4
Amreli ...	4	4	8	8	8	8	7	6	5	5
Okhamandal...	3	4	7	7	8	6	6	7	6	6

The prices of all the products continued to be as high as in the preceding year. Government efforts to control the prices soaring high to exorbitant levels, by enforcing measures like procurement, price control, distribution, continued.

Land Revenue

127. AREA — The following table shows the area of land in the five districts :—

District				Area in bighas	
				1945-46	1944-45
Baroda	...	...	...	21,02,007	21,02,027
Mehsana	...	...	...	34,50,152	34,50,178
Navsari	...	...	...	12,72,562	12,72,179
Amreli	...	...	...	11,67,262	11,67,252
Okhamandal	...	...	...	3,06,023	3,06,023
Total	...	...	...	82,98,906	82,98,565

The increase of 383 bighas in the Navsari district is due to the verification of Simadas etc. and the decrease of 26 bighas in the Mehsana district is due to verification of disputed boundaries. The small difference in the area of Baroda and Amreli district is due to the correction of mistakes in survey papers.

The following table shows the total cultivable, occupied and unoccupied areas in the five districts :—

District			Cultivable area in bighas	Area occupied in bighas	Unoccupied cultivable area in bighas
Baroda	...	...	17,67,309	17,50,470	16,833
Mehsana	...	...	30,05,675	28,33,927	1,71,748
Navsari	...	...	11,53,083	11,40,810	12,273
Amreli	...	...	9,63,094	8,92,756	70,338
Okhamandal	...	...	2,13,980	1,38,498	75,482
Total	...	...	70,93,141	67,56,467	3,46,674

The balance of unoccupied cultivable area at the end of 1944-45 was 3,47,184 which compared with the year under report shows that every year more land is being brought under cultivation. The results on the whole are satisfactory. Extensive propaganda is being carried on to grow more food.

128. TRANSFER OF LANDS — The following table shows the transfer of land by cultivators during the year under report :—

Transferred on account of	1945-46		1944-45	
	Persons	Area in bighas	Persons	Area in bighas
1. Inheritance ...	10,653	1,53,300	10,197	1,50,486
2. Partition ...	175	2,014	240	3,793
3. Gifts or exchange ...	311	4,038	318	2,706
4. Sale... ..	15,124	1,14,560	15,547	1,17,135
5. Other cases ...	1,235	12,401	1,485	12,559
Total ...	27,563	2,91,613	27,787	2,86,679

The number of persons who transferred their lands by sale decreased by 353 and the area transferred also decreased by 2,575 bighas. The decrease is mainly due to stable prices of the land as compared with the previous years, prospects of getting good prices of agricultural produce and a slight improvement in the condition of land holders.

129. THE RESULTS OF TRANSFER — The following table gives details about transfer of lands :—

Nature of transfer	1945-46		1944-45	
	Persons	Area in bighas	Persons	Area in bighas
1. From agriculturists to agriculturists.	13,389	1,31,945	11,134	86,911
2. From agriculturists to non-agriculturists.	1,963	14,999	1,942	14,531
3. From non-agriculturists to agriculturists.	3,327	22,417	2,546	17,495
4. From non-agriculturists to non-agriculturists.	2,058	20,857	1,894	19,556
Total ...	20,737	1,90,218	17,516	1,38,493

It is being noticed during the last few years that the land in possession of non-agriculturists is gradually passing into the hands of the agriculturists. This year 3,327 non-agriculturists transferred their lands to the agriculturists whereas last year their number was only 2,546.

130. SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT — The period of the existing settlements of the Baroda, Dabhoi, Mehsana, Patan, Visnagar, Kalol,

Vijapur and Okhamandal talukas was extended by two years from 1st August 1947. The expenditure of the department for the year under report was Rs. 0.93 lakh against Rs. 0.89 lakh in the previous year.

131. ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES — The area of land acquired during the year was 1,342 bighas of agricultural land and 1,77,540 sq. feet of homestead land as against 112½ bighas and 52,378 sq. feet respectively in the previous year. The compensation awarded amounted to Rs. 7.67 lakhs as against Rs. 6.17 lakhs in the previous year.

Out of the 1,400 awards made, only in 79 cases the claimants resorted to civil courts.

132. BARKHALI — The barkhali department deals with the disposal of claims relating to Inami and Ankadia villages, cash allowances, vatans and barkhali land.

133. GIRAS — The Giras Adhikari disposed of 44 succession cases and 30 miscellaneous claims. There were 79 appeals to the Giras Adhikari all of which were disposed of.

Collection of revenues

134. LAND REVENUE — The realisation of land revenue was satisfactory, as the crops were good. The total demand was Rs. 98.54 lakhs as compared to Rs. 98.23 lakhs in the previous year, the increase being due to new lands having been brought under cultivation. The realisation was Rs. 96.62 lakhs as against Rs. 95.56 lakhs in the previous year. There was no occasion for the Government to give relief in the form of remission of land revenue assessment during the year under report.

Details about demand and realisation of land revenue districtwise are given below:—

(Figures are in lakhs of Rs.)

District	1945-46			1944-45		
	Demand	Realisation	Percentage	Demand	Realisation	Percentage
Baroda	... 39.52	39.01	98.0	39.92	39.08	98.0
Mehsana	... 32.38	31.65	97.7	31.96	30.88	97.0
Navsari	... 16.76	16.63	99.3	16.89	16.77	99.3
Amreli	... 9.25	8.91	96.4	8.82	8.44	95.7
Okhamandal	... 0.63	0.42	60.8	0.64	0.39	60.9
Total	... 98.54	96.62	97.8	98.23	95.56	97.3

135. LOCAL CESS — The demand and realisation of local cess are shown below :—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

District	1945-46		Percent- age	1944-45		Per- cen- tage
	Demand	Realisation		Demand	Realisation	
Baroda ...	7.72	5.53	97.5	2.95	2.87	97.4
Mehsana ...	4.35	4.78	97.83	2.51	2.44	98.7
Navsari ...	2.43	2.43	99.77	1.89	1.88	99.9
Amreli ...	1.35	1.34	98.5	0.71	0.70	97.3
Okhamandal ...	0.08	0.07	99.0	0.04	0.04	97.4
Total ...	16.47	14.20	97.5	8.10	7.93	97.8

Demands of miscellaneous revenue during the year was Rs. 2.43 lakhs, of which Rs. 2.39 lakhs were realised.

136. ARREARS — The following table gives the figures of past arrears, recoveries and sums written off during the year under report and past arrears unrecovered at the end of the year.

Tagavi (in lakhs of rupees)

District	Total arrears at the beginning of 1945-46	Recovered or written off during 1945-46	Balance at the end of 1945-46	Over realisation
Baroda...	5.41	3.59	1.84	3.84
Mehsana ...	12.63	4.71	7.95	0.03
Navsari ...	0.55	0.45	0.09	...
Amreli ...	0.62	0.49	0.13	0.00062
Okhamandal ...	1.58	0.31	1.27	...
Total	20.79	9.55	11.28	3.87

137. TAGAVI AND OTHER LOANS — The following tables show the comparative figures of demand and realisation of the instalments of tagavi and other loans advanced by the Government:—

(in lakhs of Rs.)

District	1945-46		1944-45	
	Demand	Realisation	Demand	Realisation
<i>Tagaru</i>				
Baroda	'28	'22	'45	'39
Mehsana	1'62	1'49	2'34	1'57
Nasari	'35	'36	'44	'44
Amreli	'29	'29	'51	'50
Okhamandal	2'63	'05	'41	'11
Total	5'18	2'35	4'46	3'61

District	Demand	Realisation	Balance
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Loans

Baroda	4,412	1,804	2,608
Mehsana	1,451	621	860

138. COERCIVE MEASURES — The following table shows the number of coercive measures of each kind taken during the year under report:—

Nature of the measures				1945-46	1944-45
1. Notices ... ..	...	...	...	1,132	728
2. Attachments ... ..	...	...	...	902	1,676
3. Sale of land ... ..	...	...	...	121	25
4. Cases in which land was declared Padtar for want of bidders.				9	6
5. Land made Khalsa ... ..	...	...	...
(1) Sarkari... ..	...	...	...	...	...
(2) Barkhali ... ..	...	...	...	...	1
6. Sale of immovable property other than land ... ..	...	...	...	17	52
7. Sale of movable property ... ..	...	...	...	2	3
8. Arrest warrants issued ... ..	...	...	...	182	160
9. Fines... ..	...	...	...	252	101
Total				2,617	2,752

The steady decrease in the number of cases in which coercive measure have to be taken is indicative of the prosperity of agriculturists.

139. RELIEF MEASURES — In the Navsari district due to heavy rains there were floods in the rivers Tapti and Purna and an amount of Rs. 3,60,000 was sanctioned by the Government to render help to the people of the flood-stricken areas. In the Okhamandal district, the Khariff crop failed on account of scanty rainfall and the following relief was given:—

	Rs.
1. Suspension of land revenue.	35,153-10-0
2. Suspension of tagavi loans.	2,57,843-12-1
3. Suspension of tagavi interest.	79,509-14-6
4. Suspension of the amount given to village and prant panchayats.	9,554-13-8
(5) Suspension of compulsory fines.	665-10-0

The execution of decrees against the khedut khatedars by (a) civil and revenue courts and (b) co-operative societies was suspended till 31-12-46 reserving the right of attaching the property to the creditors.

These concessions were also granted to the Inami and Barkhali land holders of the Okhamandal district.

Taxes

140. INCOME-TAX — In 1939, the revised Income-tax Act came into operation. Under it the taxable minimum was raised from Rs. 750 to Rs. 2,000 and a graduated scale of tax was introduced. This year under H. O. No. 1 dated 22-4-46, the Income-tax department was reorganised and assessment work which was being done by the divisional naib subas was transferred to the newly organised Income-tax circles. The total number of persons assessed to tax was 12,185 including 283 companies and 1350 registered firms as against 12,492 including 359 companies and 344 registered firms in the preceding year.

The net demand of income-tax was Rs. 58.19 lakhs as against Rs. 74.17 lakhs in the preceding year. Of this, Rs. 54.37 lakhs were realised. The demand of super-tax at the flat rate of one anna in the rupee on every rupee of income exceeding Rs. one lakh amounted to Rs. 22.12 lakhs as against Rs. 31.38 lakhs in the preceding year. Of this, Rs. 21.70 lakhs were realised during the year.

Thus the demand of income-tax and super-tax for 1945-46 amounted to Rs. 80.31 lakhs and the amount of arrears at the end of the year was Rs. 5.59 lakhs. Total demand including these arrears therefore amounted to Rs. 85.9 lakhs, of which Rs. 76.07 lakhs were realised during the year leaving a balance of Rs. 9.83 lakhs at the end of the year.

Excess Profits Deposits

141. **EXCESS PROFITS DEPOSITS** — An Ordinance called "The Excess Profits Ordinance" No. 7 of 15-7-43 was promulgated in the Baroda State with effect from 1-8-43. The first assessment year under the Ordinance was the Income-tax year 1943-44. Under this ordinance the charge is 60% of refundable deposits. The total amount of E. P. Deposits assessed during the year under report was Rs. 2.00 lakhs after allowing a set off of Rs. 3.19 lakhs. Out of this amount assessed, Rs. 1.93 lakhs were recovered during the year.

Excise

142. **EXCISE ADMINISTRATION** — In the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts, contracts are given for three years for distilling country liquor, and the right of sale is leased to individual shops each year. In the Anreli district including Okhamandal, on the other hand, the monopoly of manufacture and retail sale for the whole district is farmed out.

The selling price ordinarily is not fixed though shop-keepers are not allowed to sell the liquor below the minimum made up of duty and cost price.

The country liquor shops in the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts were auctioned, as usual for one year, from 1st April 1946. 33 shops in the Baroda district on the Mewasi border, 10 on the Panchnahal borders and 13 shops on the Bansda border in the Navsari district were leased without auction, with fixed selling price. In fourteen Kasba shops in the Mehsana district, sale of liquor at fixed prices in sealed bottles was continued. The total number of shops was 607 as against 611 in the previous year. The number of detected offences increased from 437 to 680 during the year under report.

143. **CO-OPERATION WITH THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT** — To co-operate with the Bombay Government in their scheme of prohibition and dry areas, the Government continued the following measures adopted in previous years:—

- (1) In the Baroda district rationing of 10 shops within three miles of the Jambusar-Waghra dry area;
- (2) in the Mehsana district rationing of 31 shops including the Kalol and Dehgam kasha shops;
- (3) in the Navsari district, rationing of 6 shops situated on the Bansda-Andhatri border and of 50 shops on the border of Bardoli, Valod, Broach and Ankleshwar talukas besides providing a shop-free belt; and

- (4) in the 14 shops in the Songadh taluka bordering the Nawapura and Nandurbar talukas, 65 U. P. liquor only is sold from 1-4-45.

144. **EXCISE REVENUE** — The principle sources of excise revenue are :-

- (1) Manufacture and sale of country liquor, and
- (2) Sale of foreign liquor, spirits, spirituous preparations, toddy and intoxicating and poisonous drugs.

License fee, duty and tree tax are the main items of excise revenue. Excise revenue during the year amounted to Rs. 87.53 lakhs as against Rs. 74.45 lakhs in the previous year. Out of this amount, Rs. 66.27 lakhs were from country liquor, Rs. 3.81 lakhs from foreign liquor, Rs. 9.74 lakhs from toddy, Rs. 2.25 lakhs from the intoxicating and poisonous drugs and Rs. 5.46 lakhs from the miscellaneous receipts. The Navsari district yielded Rs. 41.36 lakhs, the Baroda district Rs. 35.57 lakhs, the Mehsana district Rs. 10.13 lakhs, the Amreli district Rs. 0.45 lakh and the Okhamandal Rs. 0.02 lakh. The increase is the result of larger consumption of liquor owing to the prosperous year and of the keen competition in auctions of country liquor especially in Navsari district and excess of the surplus cost price of the past year credited to the Government during this year.

Tobacco

145. **CONTINUANCE OF THE EXCISE ACT AND THE TOBACCO EXCISE DUTY RULES** — The Excise Act, 1945, which was brought into force from 28th June 1945 repealing the Indian Tobacco Excise Duty Act 1943 as applied to the Baroda State and the Tobacco Excise duty Rules 1943 remained in force during the year. There was no change in the rate of tobacco excise duty during the year.

146. **LICENSES FOR DEALING IN TOBACCO** — According to the Excise Act, 1945, all persons dealing in tobacco have to take out licenses. There are four kinds of licenses viz.

- (1) License for curing tobacco.
- (2) License for the wholesale trade.
- (3) License of work as broker or commission agent.
- (4) License for private bonded warehouses and bonded storerooms.

The scale of license fee varies from 0-3-0 to 100-0-0 Rupees and is collected in the form of court fee stamps.

147. LICENSE FEE REVENUE — The following table shows the number of different kinds of licenses issued and the license fee realised thereon in the form of court fee stamps during the year under report :—

S. No.	Kind of license	No. of licenses issued	License fee realised Rs.	Remarks
1.	Curer's License	1,250	1,635- 0-0	
2.	Wholesale Trade Licenses	6,017	49,033-12-0	
3.	Licenses for Broker and Commission agents.	42	73- 0-0	
4.	Licenses for private Bonded Warehouses and Storerooms.	4,627	12,043- 0-0	
	Total	11,532	62,786-12-0	
	1944-45	5,297	60,811- 1-0	
	1943-44	9,663	43,637-13-0	

148. TOBACCO EXCISE DUTY REVENUE — The following table shows the amount of tobacco issued for consumption in the State and exported outside on payment of duty during the year :—

S. No.	Kind of tobacco	Quantity in Bengal Mds.		Amount of duty realised on tobacco Rs.	
		Issued for consumption in the State	Exported out-side the State	Issued for consumption in the State	Exported outside the State
1.	Virginia tobacco ... ..	...	697	...	5,709
2.	Country tobacco				
	(a) For manufacture into				
	(i) Biris	18,218	2,57,101	7,96,901	1,19,93,957
	(ii) Snuff	3,704	7,975	1,70,444	3,60,886
	(iii) Hooka Tobacco... ..	7,419	22,186	1,08,135	3,52,870
	(iv) Chewing	2,314	50,636	37,073	7,92,843
	(v) Chulam tobacco	2,500	14,408	48,303	2,41,768
3.	Stalks, stems and other refuse of tobacco.	384	1,256	5,566	53,126
	Total	34,539	Lbs. 697 3,53,615	11,66,422	1,38,06,179

Opium

149. SOURCES OF REVENUE — The State has a monopoly for the manufacture of opium on the Bengal system, wherein the cultivators are required to sell the whole of the juice to the Government at a rate

fixed by the Government. The price for the best quality of juice was sanctioned at Rs. 20 per seer. The sale price of opium at the Government depots was Rs. 45 as in the previous year. Besides this, a license fee is charged on a scale graduated according to sales, increasing from Rs. 7 to Rs. 10 per seer of 40 totals. The profit on opium accrued to the licensed vendors and the license fee form the main sources of the opium revenue.

To replenish the depleted stock of opium in the State and to meet the additional demand for opium in the Attached Area, Government made the poppy cultivation compulsory and sanctioned 6,000 bighas for the same in the Sidhpur, Visnagar and Kheralu talukas of the Mehsana district. Accordingly permits to cultivate poppy in 5603 bighas were granted as against 620 bighas in the previous year. The price tendered by the cultivators was 799 Mds. 6 seers as against 76 Mds. and 22 seers in the previous year. During the year, 10,730 seers of opium was sent to the depots from the opium factory as against 13,560 seers in the preceding year. The decrease of 2,830 seers in the issue of opium is due to the discontinuance of the supply of opium to the Attached Area units and to the restriction put on the issue of opium to the retail vendors. The profit to the State from the sale of opium was Rs. 3.25 lakhs as against 4.39 lakhs in the preceding year. The reduction in net profit is chiefly due to the discontinuance of the supply of opium to the attached units. The total sale prices and the license fee amounted to Rs. 4.14 lakhs and the cost of production was Rs. 0.89 lakh.

Matches

150. MATCHES — The excise duty on matches amounted to Rs. 4.18 lakhs as against 7.28 lakhs in the previous year. The amount was realised in full.

The State received Rs. 4.11 lakhs as its share from the common pool of the match excise duty for the year 1945-46 as against Rs. 3.43 lakhs in the preceding year.

Excise duty on Sugar

151. EXCISE DUTY ON SUGAR — The Nemani Industries were permitted to manufacture Khandsari Sugar in their factory at Billimora in the Navsari district. The factory worked from 1-2-46 to 31-3-46 and produced 29 cwts. 78 lbs of Khandsari Sugar. The duty amounting to Rs. 14-14-0 on the same at the rate of Rs. 0-8-0 per cwt. was realised.

Salt

152. SALT (COMMON) — The salt arrangement for Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts continued unchanged. A monopoly contract to collect salt in the Kodinar taluka was given by auction for three years from 1st August 1944 for Rs. 1,901 per year. Out of

63,910 Mds. of salt (including 13,630 Mds. of the previous year collected from the natural deposits, 9,002 Mds. were consumed during the year leaving a balance of 54,908 Mds.

In Okhamandal the right to collect salt in 12 salt pans continued with the Tata Chemical Co. Ltd. The Company exported 6,78,111 Mds. to Bengal and foreign ports against 7,85,568 Mds. in the preceding year. The Baroda Government received from the Government of India Rs. 5.68 lakhs for 1945-46 on account of duty on salt consumed in the Gujarat possessions of the State.

153. OPERATION OF THE COTTON TRANSPORT ACT — To prevent the entry of inferior cotton from the neighbouring territories into the State, the Cotton Transport Act has been applied to the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts. Two check-stations were maintained on the Surat Border of the Mangrol and Kamej talukas in the Navsari district. No check stations were considered necessary in other districts.

Petroleum

154. LICENSES FOR PETROLEUM — Under the petroleum Act (1934), 201 licenses for the import, transport and storage of petroleum were issued during the year and Rs. 5,662 were realised as license fee.

155. PERMITS FOR THE STORAGE OF CARBIDE — Under the Carbide of Calcium Rules, six permits for the storage of carbide were issued during the year and Rs. 31 were realised as license fee.

Customs and Port dues

156. SOURCES OF REVENUE — The following table shows the revenue obtained from sea customs and port dues in the Amreli and Okhamandal districts, protective customs in the Amreli district, the customs duties at Chandod and the "Armar Cess" in the Navsari district:—

			Customs revenue realised Rs.	
Districts			1945-46	1944-45
Baroda	...	...	1,449	1,686
Mehsana	...	...	...	...
Navsari	...	...	6,259	6,438
Amreli	...	...	44,391	38,069
Okhamandal				
Port dues	...	...	3,41,025	4,41,329
Customs	...	...	32,86,376	15,03,285
Total	...	...	36,79,500	19,90,807

The Government of India have agreed to refund to the State, the customs duty realised at the ports of Navsari and Billimora after deducting the cost of collection. As the cost of collection exceeded the duty realised there was no refund.

157. EXTENSION OF VILLAGE SITE TO REMOVE CONGESTION — It has been laid down that where the village site area falls short of 30 highas for a population of 700 or 43 highas for 1000, the Gamthan should be held to be insufficient, and in such villages suitable areas for expansion should be selected and divided into convenient plots. No site rent is to be charged for the first three years, half the rent for the next five years and full rent after eight years.

158. VILLAGE EXTENSION SCHEME — The village extension scheme with the required establishment is sanctioned for three years. The work done under the scheme was as under :—

District	No. of villages for the village extension scheme	No. of villages wherein site is selected	No. of villages wherein prelimi- nary inquiries are made
Baroda	69	15	...
Mehsana	65	10	...
Navsari	27	...	10
Amreli including Okha- mandal.	47	12	...
	<hr/> 208	<hr/> 37	<hr/> 10

CHAPTER XII

CIVIL SUPPLIES

159. GENERAL — The State, even in a normal year, is a deficit area with regard to all food grains, except pulses. The failure of the kharif crops intensified the difficulties. To deal with all aspects of the problems comprehensively, the Government created a special ministry assisted by a directorate of civil supplies. To enlist public co-operation, committees were appointed in each district and taluka.

Three main measures taken by the Government to ease the food situation were :

- (i) Grow more food campaign,
- (ii) Importing of food grains from outside the State, and
- (iii) Distribution of the available supplies on an equitable basis.

160. FOOD POSITION IN THE STATE — During the year under report, due to the infrequency of rains, khariff crops failed in our State and our deficit in the khariff crops i. e. rice and bajri came to 6,800 tons and 35,400 tons respectively. Our State was surplus in juwar to the extent of 53,800 tons. With the addition of deficits of rabi crops viz. wheat and juwar 22,863 tons, the total deficit worked out at 11,263 tons for the year as regards the four major foodgrains. But the estimates were later revised and the net surplus of juwar was 3,907 tons.

Out of the quotas allotted to the Baroda State under the basic plan, we lifted 2,250 tons of rice, 6,750 tons of wheat and 500 tons of gram upto the end of the year.

Our surplus khariff juwar of 18,400 tons was allotted to the Bombay Province under the Basic plan by the Food Department. By the end of the year 3,216 tons of juwar was exported to the Bombay Province, 1,275 tons to Mysore State, 300 tons to Palitana State, 184 tons to Dhangadhara State in view of our revised estimates of khariff crops in February 1946.

During the year under report, we exported 2,138 tons of tur and turdal, 1,935 tons of moong and 403 tons of urd against our original export quotas of 10,000 tons of tur, 7,000 tons of moong and 500 tons of urd to different British Indian Provinces and Indian States.

161. **FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEES** — The personnel of the Mahal and District Civil Supplies and Savings Committees was changed giving a larger non-official representation. This reorganisation was helpful in reducing the complaints of the public.

162. **HUZUR FOOD INQUIRY COMMITTEE** — This committee functioned from December 1944 and was of great help.

Distribution organisation

163. **BARODA CITY** — Full-fledged rationing is introduced in Baroda city from 1st August 1945 for the distribution of foodgrains and sugar.

The city is divided into five wards, each under the charge of a ward rationing officer. These ward officers are given the staff of chief inspectors, inspectors and clerks. A lady inspector is also appointed to inspect the cards of pardanashin ladies. Foodgrains are distributed through cheap grain shops, ration shops and co-operative societies. The following table shows the number of such shops and the quantity of foodgrains sold during the year under report :—

S. No.	Kind of shop	Number of shops	Number of card-holders	Number including families of the card-holders	Grains sold B. Mds.	Price Rs.
1	Cheap grain shops:—					
	1. Cheap grain shops for the Government servants.	27	18,362	63,826	1,52,893	23,78,282
	2. Municipal cheap grain shops.	6	2,481	10,830	25,985	3,71,414
	3. Cheap grain shops run by private charitable persons with Government aid.	4	897	4,256	10,159	1,41,624
2	Ration shops , ...	48	23,538	1,01,571	2,66,128	41,50,338
3	Co-operative Society shops.	17	8,870	34,460	73,706	12,67,279
	Total ...	102	54,148	2,14,943 ,	5,28,871	83,08,937

164. **CENTRAL STORES** — All the ration shops receive their foodgrains from the central stores.

165. DISTRIBUTION IN THE DISTRICTS — In the districts, Government controlled and Government aided agencies and private individuals run cheap grain and fair price shops for the distribution of foodgrains. There were 42 such shops.

166. DONATION — His Highness the Maharaja Sahab graciously donated Rs. 10,50,000 for running the cheap grain shops in the districts with a view to ease the food situation and introducing other measures of relief in the districts. An additional amount of Rs. 2,27,443 was sanctioned to supplement the above donation. The following table shows the details about the working of shops run from the amount of the donations :—

Name of the district	No. of shops	Number of persons served	Food grains sold		
			D. Mds	Price Rs.	
Baroda city	...	4	4,256	10,15	1,41,624
Baroda district	...	48	2,25,500	1,78,537	7,10,865
Mehsana district	...	65	4,32,454	1,56,784	26 01,102
Navsari district	...	39	1,02,065	85,252	10,94,531
Amreli district	...	33	1,15,190	1,52,097	16,04,253
Okhamandal district...	20	34,990	65,538		7,90,990
Total	...	212	9,14,478	6,51,397	89,43,415

Special relief measures were adopted for Government servants, the lower middle class people, the old and the infirm, and the poorer areas.

- (i) *Relief to Government servants* :—A rebate of 10 per cent on the prices of the foodgrains purchased from the cheap grain shops was given from the amount of the above donation to Government servants (including pensioners drawing a pension up to Rs. 52) drawing a monthly salary of Rs. 100 and below in all the districts except in Baroda city, where it was charged to a separate amount provided in the budget of the department. In case of Government servants drawing a monthly salary up to Rs. 30, a rebate of 20% is given throughout the State. The total amount of rebate given was Rs. 7,00,430 i. e. Rs. 3,41,256 in Baroda city and Rs. 3,59,174 in the districts.
- (ii) *Necessitous areas* :—Relief given under this head during the year under report amounted to Rs. 401.
- (iii) *Relief to Lower middle class people* :—Lower middle class people other than Government servants, having a monthly income of Rs. 50 and below were supplied food grains at reduced prices in all the districts. 40,007 persons were given a relief amounting to Rs. 46,345.

(iv) *Gratuitous relief* :—Gratuitous relief was given to old and infirm people. 14,915 persons availed of this relief amounting to Rs. 20,769.

(v) *Relief to people coming to private institutions* :—In Mehsana and Amreli districts 146 persons were given relief through public institutions like hospitals, maternity homes, Mahila Samaj, etc., at the cost of Rs. 1,054.

Compulsion on the factory owners to run grain shops for their labour: Under the Factory Grain shop orders, 37 factory shops supplied grain to their employees.

Sugar & Gur

167. **SUGAR**—The quota of sugar allotted by the Government of India for the 12 months beginning from 1-12-45 was 18,500 tons. This quota was distributed among the districts and the attached areas of the State on the same basis as that was followed last year. This quota was curtailed by 13 per cent which necessitated curtailment of ration and stoppage of sugar given for social, religious and other functions.

168. **GUR**—During the earlier part of the current year, under the Bombay Zone Scheme, there was free movement of gur within the areas of the zone (including Baroda State and its Attached Areas) and adequate supply of gur was made throughout the State during the period. The Zone Scheme was cancelled towards the end of April 1946, and the import of gur into the State from the Bombay province was stopped. In order to meet the requirements of gur of the State, an import quota of 6000 tons of U. P. gur was obtained from the Government of India and arrangements were made to get this gur by issuing import permits to the merchant associations recommended by the mahal authorities concerned. The total quantity of gur thus received from outside the State during the year under report was 26,925 tons.

Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention

169. **HOARDING AND PROFITEERING PREVENTION**—During the year under report, steps were taken to check effectively the black marketting of daily requirements. Strict steps were taken and prosecutions against 111 persons were launched.

The Liaison Directorate, Government of India, New Delhi, supplied us the quotas of woollen goods, artificial silk, cycle and accessories, umbrellas etc.

170. **STANDARD CLOTH**—The total quantity of standard cloth received and sold, during the year, was 25,31,853 yds. and 27,05,753 yds. respectively.

Clief worth Rs. 23,500 was distributed to poor people, free of cost, or at concessional rates, in all the districts and the cost of it was met from the grant given by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb for the purpose.

171. **DIESEL OIL**—Diesel oil was supplied on the basis of 1941 obtained as 25 per cent to all consumers except priority customers for whom special quotas were fixed by the Controller of Supplies, Bombay, on our recommendation. The total quantity of diesel oil received in the State in the year under report was 1,75,533 units; out of which 1,03,438 units were supplied to the Industrial works, 71,955 units to Agriculturists and 440 units to other institutions.

172. **KEROSENE**—Kerosene oil was supplied on the basis of 1941 supplies less the percentage deducted by the oil companies. The total quantity of kerosene oil received in the State in the year under report was 9,72,376 gallons; out of which, 5,11,446 gallons were distributed in towns and 4,60,930 gallons in villages.

CHAPTER XIII

COMMEMORATION FUNDS

Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund

173. On the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of his illustrious reign, H. H. the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao III put apart a sum of a crore of rupees to constitute a fund known as the Diamond Jubilee Commemoration Fund.

174. CONSTITUTION — The main object of the Diamond Jubilee Commemoration Fund, which represents the interest on rupees one crore endowed by His Highness the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao III, is to assist in the improvement in village life in all its aspects — economic, social and cultural. In carrying out the object, special preference is given

- (i) to poorer areas in which development has not kept pace with the rest of the State; and
- (ii) to the needs of the backward communities like the Rani-paraj, Antyaj, Thakardas, Rabaris and the like.

A board consisting of 19 members including the representatives of the district local Boards, the Dhara Sabha and the backward classes, administers the trust.

175. PROGRAMME OF WORKS — A long term programme has been adopted and grouped under three heads :—

- (a) Works of public utility in villages;
- (b) schemes for backward areas and classes; and
- (c) head-quarter schemes, benefitting large areas or sections of the rural population.

For village works, a ten year programme (from the year 1938-39) was sanctioned after a careful survey. Every village was allotted a grant for the work or works it needed most, determined in consultation with the village panchayats. Such works absorb Rs. 2-40 lakhs every year. The special schemes sanctioned for the backward areas and classes and the head-quarter schemes absorb half a lakh of rupees each.

176. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE — The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 8.95 lakhs made up as follows:—

	Rs. in lakhs			
1. Balance of the previous year	1.21
2. Income of interest on endowment	3.50
3. Interest on deposits and miscellaneous receipts	0.35
4. Contributions from Panchayats and villages	1.43
5. Amount realised from the sale of Government securities (post balance which was invested)	0.50
Receipts from Ananats and Tasalmats	1.23
Total:—	8.95

The expenditure during the year is shown below:—

1. Expenditure on village works	...	...	...	3.43
2. " " schemes for backward areas and classes...	...	...	...	0.43
3. Expenditure on headquarter schemes	...	...	...	0.33
4. " " Broadcasting scheme	...	...	...	0.04
5. Amount paid for the benefit of the Attached Areas	...	...	...	0.95
6. Expenditure on establishment	...	...	...	0.05
7. Deposits and advances	...	...	...	0.52
Total expenditure:—	..	..	..	5.85
Balance:—	...	...	...	3.10
Grand Total:—	...	...	...	8.95

177. VILLAGE WORKS — In all, 982 works were to be executed during the year. Of these, 673 works were of previous years pending completion and 309 works were sanctioned for the year 1945-46. 196 works were completed during the year, while 279 works were in progress; 508 works were in arrears. The rise in prices of materials due to war conditions was the main reason for these arrears.

178. DETAILS OF COMPLETED WORKS — Water supply, roads and culverts form the primary needs of the villages. The part played by the trust in meeting this requirements can be judged from the following table which shows the different classes of works that were completed in each district during the year:—

District	Protected drinking water supply	Water supply for cattle etc.	Roads, culverts etc.	Miscellaneous	Total
Baroda	...	28	22	...	50
Mehsana	...	39	6	12	75
Navsari	...	16	18	...	42
Amreli	...	3	15	3	26
Okha	...	3	...	...	3
Total	...	89	61	15	196

179. **SCHEMES FOR BACKWARD AREAS AND CLASSES** — During the year, Rs. 0.43 lakhs were spent on schemes for the development of backward areas and classes. Prominent among the schemes were the following:—

(i) **THE D. J. THAKARDA BOARDING SCHOOL** — This institution is located at Deodarda in Patan taluka of the Mehsana district. It can accommodate up to 100 students from backward communities like the Thakardas, Rabaris, Waghris etc. A farm of about 100 highas is provided for practical training in Agriculture. Free boarding and educational facilities are provided. Besides primary education, students are trained in carpentry, smithy, weaving, poultry keeping and dairying. 25 students were receiving their training during the year. The expenditure incurred was Rs. 14,620.

(ii) **THE D. J. BACKWARD CLASS BOARDING SCHOOL** — This institution was started in November 1942, near the Farm at Dabhoi, for the benefit of the backward class boys of Baroda district. Here also, similar training and other facilities as at Deodarda are provided. There were in all 43 students in this institution during the year under report. The maintenance expenditure came to Rs. 12,175.

(iii) **THE D. J. ANTYAJ BOARDING HOUSE** — The above Boarding House is situated at Vyara in Navsari district for the benefit of the Harijan boys of that district. It has accommodation for 25 students. It is gratifying to note that the full number of 25 students was taking advantage during the year. Rs. 5,086 were spent towards the maintenance of this institution.

(iv) **RURAL RECONSTRUCTION CENTRE, KOSAMBA** — The Centre's working is guided and supervised by a Central Advisory Board. Intensive propaganda and experiments are carried out in the 35 villages round about Kosamba in connection with improved methods of Agriculture, Horticulture, Cottage industries, Sanitation and Co-operation. A grant of Rs. 3,000 was sanctioned, but the Centre could utilize Rs. 1,422 only during the year.

(v) **GRANTS TO BACKWARD INSTITUTIONS** — Suitable grants were given to backward class institutions like the Harijan Ashrams of Baroda and Navsari, the Raniparaj Boarding House, Baroda, Shree Patesinh Anathasram, Baroda, the Widows' Home and the like. In all, 10 such backward institutions received grants during the year amounting to Rs. 7,925.

180. **HEAD-QUARTER SCHEMES** — A short account of some of the important schemes financed under this head is given below:—

(i) **THE D. J. COTTAGE INDUSTRIES INSTITUTE, BARODA** — Classes conducted by this Institute to impart training in

(1) leather-works, (2) wood-engraving, (3) calico-printing, (4) lacquer-works, and (5) tailoring are financed from the D. J. Trust Fund. During the year, 42 students received training and Rs. 10,154 were spent towards the maintenance of the classes.

(ii) LITERACY CAMPAIGN — For the removal of illiteracy, a grant of Rs. 10,000 a year is sanctioned from the D. J. Trust Fund. The Education department operates this scheme by conducting classes for adult education where possible.

During the year, 378 classes were conducted and 3,518 adults received advantage of this scheme. Rs. 8,314 were spent towards it.

(iii) HEALTH UNIT, KOSAMBA — This scheme is operated in 30 villages surrounding Kosamba. Besides affording medical aid, it aims at educating the rural population in improvement of general health and sanitation. 1,558 persons were inoculated against cholera. School children were examined during the visits for general health. 15 magic lantern shows were arranged to educate the rural population for the prevention of common diseases. During the year, Rs. 2,882 were spent for this unit.

(iv) SOIL CONSERVATION — For want of bunds and embankments and other such means of checking the “run-off” of rain water, the top fertile layer which is “the cream” of the soil is washed away every year. To prevent this, the soil conservation scheme is undertaken. Several anti-erosion measures like (a) bunding (b) contour trenching (c) tree planting etc. are being carried out at Dhari and Hirapura (Vijapur). Rs. 11,214 were spent during the year towards these activities.

(v) THE D. J. BROADCASTING SCHEME:—The capital expenditure towards the building and machinery etc. for this scheme is met from the D. J. Trust Fund. During the year, Rs. 3,456 were spent for such capital expenditure. The transmitter was received during the year and its installation work is in progress.

Diamond Jubilee Peoples' Village Uplift Fund

181. DIAMOND JUBILEE PEOPLES' VILLAGE UPLIFT FUND — The people of the State collected this fund to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of His Highness the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao III. The total fund amounting to Rs. 7.59 lakhs is invested in Government Securities and yields a yearly income of Rs. 26,875.

The income is utilized for awarding scholarships to bonafide agriculturists for obtaining practical instructions in Agriculture, Horticulture and subsidiary occupations like leather-tanning, paper-making, calico-printing, tailoring etc. A substantial amount is also spent each year for encouraging the production of khadi in the State. A subsidy of one anna per sq. yd. of khaddar is given to institutions producing it.

During the year, scholarships amounting to Rs. 2,987 were awarded to 59 candidates for training in Agriculture and allied subjects. For training in cottage industries, scholarships amounting to Rs. 3,408 were awarded to 61 candidates.

To encourage the weaving industry, 16 institutions in the State, which produced 70,30+ square yards of khadi, were given grants amounting to Rs. 6,109.

Selected young women from the rural areas are trained at the Mahatma Chhatral Industrial Home for women, Baroda, in cottage industries and rural problems. During the year, 11 women from the mofussil were admitted to this class for training. They were given scholarships to meet their expenses. A special Boarding House was maintained for these candidates under the supervision of a matron. The expenditure towards this scheme was Rs. 3,873 during the year.

The total expenditure from this fund during the year was Rs. 16,355.

Shree Sayajirao III Memorial Trust Fund

182. OBJECT — To perpetuate the revered memory of His Highness the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao III, a sum of rupees one crore was endowed by His Highness the Maharaja Sahib on the occasion of his accession to the throne in February 1939. The fund is intended to finance schemes benefitting all the sections of the population without any distinction of caste or creed.

183. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE — The balance at the end of the last year was Rs. 0.31 lakh. Rs. 3.50 lakhs were received during the year as income of the fund; Rs. 0.62 lakhs were received as interest on amounts invested in Government Securities. Thus the total income during the year was Rs. 4.43 lakhs. During the year, the total expenditure was Rs. 0.55 lakhs. Rs. 3.54 lakhs were invested in Government Securities of the face value of Rs. 3.50 lakhs. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 0.34 lakh.

184. SCHEMES SANCTIONED — Four schemes have been sanctioned by His Highness the Maharaja Sahib to be financed from this fund. A short account of each of these schemes is given below :—

- (i) An annual endowment of Rs. 21,000 has been made to the Benares Hindu University for the establishment of a chair called "Shree Sayajirao Chair of Indian Culture and Civilization." The purpose of this donation is defined as follows :—

"The donor believes, with his illustrious predecessor, that there is a distinct type of thought and life in India which has been enduring through the centuries and which is India's greatest contribution to the world; in it the Hindus and the

Moslem, the Christian and the Parsee find common ground. It will be the main function of the Professor and the fellows to promote the cultural unity of India, by means of scholarly publications and lectures. Such publications shall be included in the Savajirao Garkwad Series to be inaugurated as a part of this foundation". Dr. Sir Radhakrishnan works as Sir Savajirao professor of Indian Culture and Civilization. During the year, Messrs. Prabhakant Trivedi, Ramakant Tripathi and K. Venkat Raman who were appointed last year continued to work. During the year, Sir Radhakrishnan delivered address to large audiences at Baroda, Karachi, Madras and Benares. He also delivered the convocation address of the Travancore University in November 1945. Dr. Sir Radhakrishnan spent two terms at Oxford. He spent the Easter vacation in America and gave lectures at about a dozen of Universities namely, Haward, Yale, Columbia, Los Angeles, Chicago etc.

- (ii) To supplant the efforts made from "Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust Fund" for medical aid to the women and children of the State, a grant of Rs. 10,000 a year is given from the Memorial Fund. The Trust Board of Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust opened a Maternity Home at Nar in Petlad taluka. The Maternity Homes for Dabhoi, Karjan and Balisana are to begin soon. A modest beginning was made by appointing nurses at these places. Appointments of lady doctors are awaited.
- (iii) A maximum amount of Rs. 30,000 is earmarked for the award of Sir Sayajirao Memorial Scholarships to the sons of Sardars, Assamdars, etc. In all, 90 scholarships amounting to Rs. 26,847 were awarded during the year. Of these 90 scholars, 29 were receiving higher education, 60 secondary education and one technical education.
- (iv) Every year two students obtaining their B. Sc. degree from the Baroda College are awarded monthly scholarships of Rs. 30 each for studies of Chemical Engineering and Textile Chemistry at the department of Chemical Technology, Bombay. During the year, Messrs. C. K. Shah and C. B. Kothari were the recipients of these scholarships.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

District Local Boards

185. **Income.**—The total income of local boards increased from Rs. 8.30 lakhs to Rs. 10.16 lakhs. The income of the different boards was :

Dahoda Rs. 3.48 lakhs, Mehsana Rs. 4.12 lakhs, Navsari Rs. 1.70 lakhs, Anand including Okhaman tal Rs. 0.87 lakh.

The following statement shows their income from various sources:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Source of income	1945-46	1944-45
Local cess ...	8.56	6.31
Government contribution ...	0.77	1.24
Contribution from private individuals	0.13	0.12
Miscellaneous ...	0.70	0.63
Total ...	10.16	8.30

The paucity of the means at the disposal of district boards severely limits their capacity to assist in the rural development, and for that reason, it is a factor in dissuading many capable leaders of villages from seeking election to these boards. The boards' responsibility is mainly confined to feeder roads and village water supply but in providing even these essential requirements, progress has been distressingly slow. To expedite the programme the government have from time to time augmented the resources of these boards either by giving direct financial assistance for particular works or by placing at their disposal new sources of income or by relieving them of some of their responsibilities. In 1939, for instance, the boards were relieved of their contribution towards education, thus adding Rs. 3.25 lakhs to their resources. But none of these measures have appreciably affected the position. During the year, the local cess was raised from anna one in the rupee to two annas.

186. EXPENDITURE — The expenditure increased from Rs. 10·13 lakhs to Rs. 11·44 lakhs, civil works and sanitation being the main items on which expenditure increased. The following statement gives the expenditure on each item and its percentage to the total expenditure:—

(Figures in lakhs of Rupees)

Heads of expenditure	1945-46		1944-45	
	Expenditure	Percentage	Expenditure	Percentage
Administration	1·47	12·8	1·41	14·2
Civil works	4·45	38·9	3·34	32·9
Education	0·57	4·9	0·44	4·4
Medicine and vaccination	0·35	3·1	0·35	3·6
Sanitation and other public conveniences	2·42	21·2	2·40	23·7
Contribution to municipalities and village boards	1·14	9·9	1·32	13·0
Miscellaneous	1·19	10·2	0·83	8·2
Total	11·44	100·0	10·13	100

Rs. 6,57,006 were spent on civil works as against Rs. 5,58,736 in the preceding year. The details are as follows:—

S. No.	Item	1944-45	1945-46	Increase	Decrease
1	Communication	3,00,229	3,78,729	78,500	...
2	Civil works	11,244	15,885	4,641	...
3	Water supply	1,48,367	1,79,555	51,188	...
4	Other works	95,896	62,837	...	36,059
	Total	5,58,736	6,57,006	1,34,329	36,059

Net increase Rs. 98,270

187. FEEDER ROADS — To connect as many villages as possible with the railway system, with which Baroda is so well served, a programme of feeder roads was sanctioned in 1928-29. The number of roads on the programme, subsequently expanded a little, was 159 with a length of about 479 miles. Of these, 138 roads covering a length of about 416 miles have been constructed. The original programmes of the Amreli and Navsari districts have been completed and new programmes have been prepared. The expenditure incurred upto the end of the year was Rs. 12·41 lakhs, of which Rs. 5·52 lakhs

were contributed by the government. The programme and the work completed in each district is shown below:—

District	Sanctioned programme 1925-29			Completed upto July 1945			Government contribution in lakhs of rupees
	Roads	Mileage	Estimated cost in lakhs of rupees	Roads	Mileage	Actual cost in lakhs of rupees	
Baroda ...	84	185.7	14.44	68	144.5	6.39	4.10
Mehsana ...	38	235.0	3.13	55	221.2	3.78	0.56
Navsari ...	0	36.0	4.95	7	30.0	1.79	0.68
Amreli ...	8	19.6	0.35	8	19.6	0.45	0.18

188. VILLAGE PROTECTED WATER SUPPLY — After the completion of programme of 459 village wells, the different prant panchayats have undertaken new triennial programmes. In the Baroda district, out of 62 wells on the programme, 49 were completed and 8 were in progress. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 22,000. In the Mehsana district 112 new wells were taken up, out of which 32 wells were completed and work on 80 wells was in progress. Besides this, 29 cattle troughs and tanks were taken up. The expenditure during the year on these works was Rs. 1.37 lakhs. In the Navsari district, 55 wells were completed at the cost of Rs. 49,000. The total government contribution was Rs. 12,000.

Along with the programme of village wells, a triennial programme of tube wells was adopted for villages, where potable water could not be tapped even at great depth by sinking ordinary wells. The programme has been postponed because of the prohibitive rise in cost.

189. "ANTI-MALARIA CAMPAIGN ETC. — Anti-malaria campaign was carried on by Baroda, Mehsana, Navsari, Amreli and Okhamandal prant panchayats"

Campaigns for the eradication of guinea worms were in progress in the Sankheda taluka of the Baroda district and in the Chanasma and Harij talukas of the Mehsana district. These schemes were financed entirely by the government.

190. VILLAGE PANCHAYATS — To encourage village panchayats to undertake works of public utility of permanent nature, the government and the prant panchayats contribute an amount equal to one fourth the amount raised by the people either by taxation, contribution or manual labour. During the year under report, few village panchayats took advantage of this concession and only Rs. 17,887 were contributed by the government for such works.

Baroda City Municipality

191. AREA AND POPULATION — The area of the Baroda City Municipality is 8.47 sq. miles. The population of the city according to the census of 1941 was 1,53,301.

192. INCOME — The following table shows the income of the municipality :—

INCOME

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Sources of income	1945-46	Percentage	1944-45	Percentage
Government grant	1.25	5.1	1.25	8.4
Municipal rates & taxes —				
Terminal tax	5.10	33.1	5.45	36.4
Taxes on houses and lands	1.67	10.9	1.64	11.0
Taxes on animals and vehicles	0.85	5.7	0.94	6.5
Toll	0.03	0.3	0.05	0.4
Water tax	2.25	14.6	2.15	14.2
Conservancy	0.80	5.2	0.76	4.3
Drainage	0.32	2.1	0.36	2.4
Taxes on offensive and dangerous trades	0.19	1.2	0.15	1.0
Entertainment tax	0.73	4.8	...	...
Other sources of revenue	1.32	8.6	1.20	8.0
Miscellaneous	0.53	3.4	1.08	7.4
Total	15.39	100.0	15.03	100.0

Net increase Rs. 0.36

There was a net increase of Rs. 0.36 lakh in income. The main source of new income was Entertainment Tax being Rs. 0.73 lakh. Besides this, the revenue derived from other sources shows an increase due to the increased receipts from taxes on houses and lands, water tax, conservancy, taxes on offensive and dangerous trades and other sources of revenue.

The decrease is in terminal tax, taxes on animals and vehicles, drainage and miscellaneous sources. The incidence of taxation per head was Rs. 6-15-9 as against Rs. 7-3-6 in the previous year, thus showing a decrease of Rs. 0-3-9.

195. EXPENDITURE.—The following table shows the expenditure for the year 1945:—

Expenditure in Lakhs of Rupees					
No.	Particulars	Rs.	Paise	Percentage	1944-45 Percentage
1	Salaries	11.75	0.00	11.75	13.2
2	Grants	6.10	0.00	6.10	45.1
3	Public works	1.50	0.00	1.50	3.4
4	Drainage	0.80	0.00	0.80	1.1
5	Compensation	0.41	0.00	0.41	13.2
6	Water works	0.63	0.00	0.63	4.4
7	Other charges	1.39	0.00	1.39	6.2
8	Total	13.67	0.00	13.67	100.0

There was a net increase of Rs. 2.24 lakhs in expenditure. The main increase was under the following heads for the reasons shown against each of them:—

- (i) *Salaries*: The increase of Rs. 0.80 lakh is due to the additional works taken on hand during the year under report.
- (ii) *Public works*: The increase of 1.12 lakhs is due to changes and improvements in the Khanderao Market and additional works of construction of vegetable and meat market.
- (iii) *Drainage*: The increase of Rs. 0.80 lakh, the amount sent as tasalmat to P. W. D. was charged more to this head during the year.
- (iv) *Compensation*: The increase of Rs. 0.41 lakh is due to the increased cost of acquisition of properties during the year.
- (v) *Water works*: The increase of Rs. .13 lakh, the amount sent as tasalmat to the P. W. D. was charged more to this head during the year.

The decrease of Rs. 1.39 lakhs in expenditure under the head of other charges is due to charging the expenditure of cheap grain shops for the municipal servants to tasalmat during the year under report.

194. **HEALTH**—The general health of the city was good. A few cases of typhoid, small pox, measles and tuberculosis were reported.

Immediate preventive measures were taken so as to check the epidemic. Facilities for pathological examination were given for examining blood etc., through the municipal laboratory. The nurse collected the figures of notifiable cases by going round to the private practitioners in the city.

The birth and death rates per thousand of the total population were 40.8 and 28.4 respectively in the year under report as against 37.00 and 27.6 respectively in the previous year.

195. WORKS OF PUBLIC UTILITY -- Among the important work, undertaken during the year, the following deserve mention :—

- (i) The central square and the western chowk of Khunderao Market, was improved by paving the whole of the place with stone, slabs and constructing modern stalls. This has greatly improved the sanitation of the market.
- (ii) A meat market on the Piramatar Road was built.
- (iii) Construction of vegetable market in Wadi is in progress.
- (iv) His Highness the Maharaja Sahib has recently sanctioned the proposal of well-equipped Isolation Hospital with 20 beds.
- (v) Four cheap grain shops for the poor were continued to work. 4,299 card holders took advantage of these shops.

196. PROPAGANDA — Propaganda for popularising vaccination against small-pox and inoculation against typhoid was conducted. Booklets on the prevention of tuberculosis were distributed free. Twenty-one magic lantern lectures on the prevention of diseases were arranged in different parts of the city.

District Municipalities

197. DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES — There are 41 municipalities in the mofussil—11 'A' class in larger towns and 27 'B' class in the smaller, while the 3 villages of Makarpura, Attarsumba and Songadh have been given 'B' class municipality for special reasons. All 'A' class municipalities elect their own presidents; in 'B' class municipalities the vahivaldar is ex-officio president, except in Unjha and Vadnagar, which have been given the right to elect their presidents.

198. 'A' CLASS MUNICIPALITIES — The main sources of income of these municipalities are house tax and octroi.

The total income, during the year, was Rs. 9.80 lakhs as against Rs. 8.43 lakhs in the preceding year. There was a general increase in all the principal items of revenue.

The main items of expenditure of the municipalities are lighting, water supply, drainage, roads and conservancy. During the year, the total expenditure was Rs. 9.50 lakhs as against Rs. 9.11 lakhs.

The extent and efficiency of the services rendered by these municipalities are limited. Every where municipal taxation is very light as is indicated by the incidence of taxation per head of population. The population, the revenue and the incidence of taxation of these municipalities are as shown below:—

Name	Population	Income from taxes Rs.	Incidence Rs.
Navsari	34,455	1,13,643	5- 3-10
Mehsana	15,874	65,088	3-14- 9
Visnagar	17,227	66,593	2- 8- 3
Kalol	14,670	56,223	3-11- 3
Amreli	22,612	68,828	2-12- 5
Datan	36,380	1,10,104	2- 9- 4
Petlad	23,649	39,704	3- 0- 5
Bilimora	12,720	68,516	4-15- 6
Sidhpur	20,696	66,893	2- 7- 5
Gandevi	8,652	24,290	2-10- 6
Dabhoi	20,507	86,697	1- 3-11

The incidence has increased during the last three years in all the municipalities except in Dabhoi and Visnagar where low as it was, it has decreased still further.

Two important works investigated or undertaken during the year deserve mention:—

- (i) *Amreli water supply* : His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, on the occasion of his visit to Amreli in November 1940 announced a gift of Rs. 10.15 lakhs for the city's water supply scheme. The scheme is under execution.
- (ii) *Anti-malaria campaigns* : Anti-malaria measures were continued by the Navsari, Gandevi and Bilimora municipalities. The government bears half the cost of these measures.

199. 'B' CLASS MUNICIPALITIES — The main sources of income of these municipalities are octroi, house tax and government subsidies. Makarpura, Songadh and Attarsumba municipalities receive permanent government grants amounting to Rs. 6,695 to supplement their meagre resources.

The total income of these municipalities, during the year, was Rs. 5.54 lakhs as against Rs. 5.20 lakhs in the previous year. There was an appreciable increase in all the items of revenue. The expenditure increased from Rs. 5.06 lakhs to Rs. 5.26 lakhs.

The incidence of taxation per head of population of these municipalities was Rs. 2-1-3 in the Mehsana district, Rs. 2-0-2 in the Navsari district, Rs. 1-7-0 in the Amreli district, Rs. 1-7-10 in the Baroda district and Rs. 1-12-8 in the Okhamandal. The minimum was Re. 0-1-8 in Makarpura and the maximum Rs. 3-4-3 in Padra.

Water works and drainage : Out of the 30 municipalities, 10 have got water works. Schemes for water works at Dwarka, Beyt, Padra and Kadi are on hand.

Drainage has been laid by two municipalities and in others schemes have reached various stages of investigation or completion.

Anti-malaria measures : The Vyara, Songadh and Kathor municipalities in the Navsari district, Sankheda in Baroda district and the Kodinar and Dhari municipalities in the Amreli district carried on anti-malaria campaign. The government bears half the cost of these measures.

CHAPTER XV

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LEGISLATION

200. SOCIAL LEGISLATION — The social legislation in the State represents the accepted policy of the government that in social matters the statute book must reflect the highest ideals of the race. The laws in force in the State are :—

Child Marriage Prevention Act;
Hindu Divorce Act;
Hindu women's property legislation;
Hindu Monogamy Act;
Special Marriage Act;
Muslim Women's Divorce Act;
The Caste Tyranny Removal Act;
The Social Disabilities Removal Act;
Sanyas Diksha Restraint Act.

A study of the operation of these laws over a long period brings into relief, both the difficulties of social legislation when not adequately supported by public opinion and its influence in moulding and educating public conscience.

201. CHILD MARRIAGE PREVENTION ACT, 1904 — By this law a boy under 16 years of age or a girl under 12 years of age was declared to be a child for the purposes of the Act and persons responsible for the marriage of such a child were made liable to be punished with fine. In the beginning, the law was leniently administered as it ran counter to old established customs. The legislation was, however, exercising a steady influence in educating public opinion and rousing public conscience to the evils of child marriages, and with this healthy change in the public opinion, it became possible to enforce the provisions more strictly. The Government periodically reviewed the working of the Act, and finding that public opinion had sufficiently crystallised itself against child marriages, progressively extended its scope and raised penalties and directed a stricter enforcement.

The amendment of 1928

- (i) declared marriages, in which either of the parties is below 8 years, to be void;

- (ii) provided for the punishment of parties, responsible for such marriages, including the officiating priest, with a fine upto Rs. 500 or imprisonment upto one month or both; and
- (iii) raised the maximum limit of fine from Rs. 50 to Rs. 200 for child marriages over the age of eight.

In 1932, the law was brought into conformity with the British Indian Act of 1930 and the marriageable age was raised to 18 years for boys and 14 for girls. By 1937, public opinion had so far advanced that in that year, on the recommendation of the Dhara Sabha, the punishment for all child marriages was raised to imprisonment upto one month, or fine upto Rs. 1,000, or both.

There has also been a corresponding change in the severity with which the law is administered. The percentage of fines of more than Rs. 10 increased from 30 in 1930-33 to 69 in 1944-45 and during the year under report it was 76·7. After the amendment of 1938, it has been possible more and more to award punishment of imprisonment. During the year, 52 persons were sentenced to imprisonment. The stigma attached to imprisonment is deterrent and this punishment is especially effective in case of the rich, who do not mind an additional expenditure which fines entail, on the occasion of a marriage.

202. THE EFFECTS OF THE LEGISLATION — The law has been in operation for 42 years. So far as marriages of children under 8 years are concerned, the law has succeeded in practically eliminating them. They now form less than 1 in 1,000. The average age of marriage in the case of both boys and girls has risen by about 5 years. As regards other marriages, the following table is instructive :—

Quinquennium	Average number of marriages per year	Average number of child marriages	Percentage of child marriages to total
1916-20	10,138	3,365	33·2
1921-30	16,379	5,532	32·7
1931-35	13,100	2,460	18·9
1936-40	7,600	2,500	14·1
1940-45	22,600	2,700	11·8
1946	23,820	2,348	9·8

Taking the figures for a long term since 1916, the quinquennial averages clearly indicate the progress made. While before 1920 and even 1930, a third of the marriages in the State were below the prescribed limit; now, under an increased marriageable age, only about one-tenth of the marriages come within the penalised age limits.

In 1933 just after the law was stiffened and the age limit raised, there was a large increase in infant marriages. There was again a recrudescence of this evil in 1938, but now there is a definite improvement in the outlook of the society.

Hindu Divorce Law

203. **HINDU DIVORCE LAW** — The Hindu Law does not allow divorce except in certain communities in which it is permitted by custom. To remove this disability, the Hindu Divorce Act was passed in 1931. Provision has been made in the law for

- (i) Divorce,
- (ii) Judicial separation,
- (iii) Separate residence,
- (iv) Nullity of marriage, and
- (v) Restitution of conjugal rights.

The grounds, on which relief can be sought, are cruelty, desertion, adultery, drunkenness, impotency and incompatibility of temperament. Relief on these grounds is available to all Hindus. Persons belonging to castes, in which divorce is not permitted by custom, can obtain relief only by a decree of a court; whereas the others are only required to register the dissolution of their marriages.

Since 1931, 852 suits for relief under the Act have been instituted. Of these, 722 were for divorce, 32 for judicial separation, 12 for separate residence, 7 for declaring the marriage null and void, and 79 for restitution of conjugal rights. The main grounds for relief were cruelty by husband, habitual drunkenness and desertion.

Persons belonging to castes in which divorce is not allowed by custom have been slow to take advantage of the law, specially designed for them. During the sixteen years, only 68 suits were filed by such persons. In recent years, however, they have shown a greater willingness to seek relief under the law; the number of cases in the first three years was only 3 as against 28 in the last three years. It is a feature well worth mention that all these 28 cases were filed by either Brahmans or Varnias, educationally the two of the most advanced communities among the Hindus. This reluctance is due to the force of custom and tradition, and not to any difficulties in the law. Of the 10 cases decided during this period, all have been decreed in favour of the plaintiff. In communities in which custom allows divorce, the law has provided a regular procedure and a record of the fact of divorce. These benefits are appreciated.

Hindu Women's Property Legislation

204. HINDU WOMEN'S PROPERTY LEGISLATION — In November 1933, the Code of Hindu law was amended so as to widen the rights of Hindu women in matters of inheritance and rights to property.

Under the amended law

- (a) the widow of a co-parcener takes the place of her husband as a co-parcener in the joint family, i. e. she becomes a joint owner of the family property with a right to ask for partition;
- (b) she becomes an absolute owner of the property, which she acquires either by partition or inheritance, to the extent of property worth Rs. 12,000 and retains her limited interest in the surplus, if there be any;
- (c) a widow can inherit her husband's exclusive property along with her sons obtaining a share equal to that of a son;
- (d) where a widow acquires limited interest in property, that interest has been liberalised by allowing her to alienate the property for endowing educational institutions and charitable purposes and by restricting the right to challenge her alienations to a specified number of reversioners;
- (e) an unmarried daughter can claim a share in the family property equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ of a son's share and can have it separated;
- (f) a married but widowed daughter can claim maintenance from her father's family property under certain circumstances;
- (g) a widowed daughter-in-law has been given a place in the list of heirs, after the mother of the deceased father-in-law;
- (h) sons of a predeceased daughter can claim inheritance with living daughters.

205. POSITION OF HINDU WOMEN IMPROVED — These reforms have considerably improved the status and material position of women in Hindu family. Among the higher castes, these rights are generally conceded as in this part of India owing to the absence of Purda and other causes, women's property rights have always been more extensive than elsewhere; but among the lower classes, men are less willing to accept the change, and the women are not yet sufficiently conscious

of their rights. During the year, 7 suits by widow co-parceners were instituted for partition of their shares in the joint property as against 9 in the preceding year. The effectiveness of the law, however, cannot be judged from these figures, for, the very purpose of clearly defining rights in law is to make litigation unnecessary. By securing the financial position of the widow, the law has become a potent factor in bringing about a welcome social reform and removed a disability which was a source of great hardship to widows. Further, in suits by reversioners to challenge alienations by widows, the possession of absolute interest in the property alienated is put forward as a defence.

The Hindu Monogamy Act, 1942

206. **THE HINDU MONOGAMY ACT, 1942** — This law marks the culmination of the movement for reform of Hindu law in the State, and it is a measure of the advancement and enlightenment of public opinion that it was passed unanimously by the Dhara Sabha.

The law amends sec. 116 of the Code of Hindu law and makes a marriage of a husband during the life time of his wife an offence and the marriage illegal.

Since 1942, 46 complaints have been filed, of which 23 were during the year. Of these 23 cases, 13 were disposed of during the year.

Special Marriage Act

207. **SPECIAL MARRIAGE ACT** — The Special Marriage Act came into force in the State in 1908. In British India, till recently, the parties to an inter-marriage between persons of different communities under the Registration of Marriage Act, had to declare that they did not belong to any of the recognised religions. Such a declaration is not necessary under the Baroda Act. The Act thus offers a wider scope in the choice of a life partner to those who do not feel themselves bound by the forms of the religion in which they happen to be born, without compelling them to renounce that religion.

Customs and tradition have, however, restricted the exercise of this opportunity. During the 38 years that the Act has been in operation, only 97 marriages were performed under it, and of these more than half were in the last five years. Moreover, the restriction of social customs and religious law of different communities have proved, as was anticipated, sufficiently strong to confine the action of this legislation, mainly to inter-marriages among different groups within a religious community. Of these 97 cases, 90 were cases of Hindu inter-caste marriages.

The Muslim Women's Divorce Act, 1942

208. **THE MUSLIM WOMEN'S DIVORCE ACT, 1942** — In case of women the Muslim law allows divorce on certain specific and clearly defined grounds such as cruelty, desertion, failure to maintain the wife or perform marital obligations, impotency, insanity, venereal disease or seven years' imprisonment etc. But the wife's right to divorce her husband without his consent is governed by the terms of contract made before or after marriage. The courts have, however, allowed divorce by judicial decree for reasons valid under Muslim law even without a specific contract. These rights have been clarified and defined under the Muslim Women's Divorce Act, 1942.

The Caste Tyranny Removal Act

209. **THE CASTE TYRANNY REMOVAL ACT** — In Gujarat, numerous customs restrictive of individual liberty persist. There are still customs which penalise foreign travel, restrict marriage in certain castes to 'Gols' which are small groups within the caste or even sub-castes, which force people to incur heavy expenditure on occasions like marriage, death etc. Enlightened persons long felt the tyranny of such customs but were helpless. The caste assumed powers of ostracism and inflicted fines which they recovered by exercising undue social pressure. The Caste Tyranny Removal Act was passed in 1933 to meet these evils. It empowers the courts to punish by imprisonment upto six months, or fine upto Rs. 1,000, or both, persons who penalise those who defy the despotic customs.

The operation of the act shows once again the difficulties of social legislation when not sufficiently supported by public opinion. During its thirteen years' operation, there have been only 96 cases. Nor do records show any growing tendency on the part of people to resort more freely to the courts for redress on this account; the average number of cases of the first three years of the Act was 11, whereas of the last three years it is only 8.

210. **OBSERVATIONS** — We have only to examine the results of the complaints filed to appreciate the difficulties that prevent a more ready resort to law for redress. Of these 90 cases, not a single case has resulted in conviction. People are reluctant to resort to it, because it embitters their relations with the leaders of their caste, on whom they are largely dependent for the observance of social and religious forms of their society. Even when cases are instituted, the other members of the caste are unwilling to incur the odium of deposing against leaders. Complainants, therefore, are unable to prove even the fact of ex-communication. But apart from the number and result of the cases filed under the law, the existence of the Act and the fact that leaders of castes are liable to be hauled up before a court, have constituted a salutary check on the high-handedness and arbitrary exercise of the power of ex-communication.

Social Disabilities Removal Act

211. SOCIAL DISABILITIES REMOVAL ACT — The steps taken by government, to remove the disabilities under which the Antyajas belonging to the scheduled castes labour, fall into two groups:

First, by education, economic assistance and co-operative movement, to raise the community to take its place of equality with the other sections of the people. These are detailed under the respective chapters.

Second, to punish those who deny the members of this community such elementary rights as the use of public wells, roads, buses etc. With this latter object, a radical legislative change was given to the old proclamation by the enactment of the Social Disabilities Removal Act in 1933. To prevent a member of this class from exercising his elementary rights is made punishable a fine which may extend to Rs. 200 in the first instance. For enforcing the Act, standing committees have been set up in all the districts and in talukas where necessary. These committees consist of revenue and other officers and non-officials. The suba is the president and at least two members of the scheduled classes are appointed on it. These committees are charged with the duty of investigating complaints and initiating action where necessary. The committees received complaints, mostly relating to the use of wells, but in no case was there an occasion to institute criminal proceedings. The government have issued instructions to the committees to enforce the law more strictly.

Sanyas Diksha Restraint Act

212. SANYAS DIKSHA RESTRAINT ACT, 1933 — The Sanyas Diksha Restraint Act, which came into force on 9th November 1933, prohibits the initiation of minors into Hindu and Jain orders of asceticism. The Act was mainly intended to remedy the grievance of Jains that such initiation of children (Diksha) was detrimental to their interests as well as to the institution of Sanyas. The Act declares such initiation void and of no effect on legal rights and liabilities and makes the giving of Diksha and abetment thereof punishable with imprisonment upto one year and fine upto Rs. 500. The preventive value of the Act is evidenced by the fact that no complaint has been filed for its breach since the passing of the Act.

ECONOMIC LEGISLATION

213. ECONOMIC LEGISLATION — The economic legislation in the State falls under (1) Tenancy, (2) Debt and (3) Protection of backward classes and comprises the following Acts:—

- (1) The Rent Regulation Act;
- (2) The Ankadia Villages' Tenants Act, 1934;

- (3) The Debt Conciliation Act, 1936;
- (4) The Backward Classes Land Protection Act, 1938;
- (5) The Agriculturist Debt Regulation Act, 1935.

The working of these Acts is described below:—

214. THE RENT REGULATION ACT, 1934—The Act is applied to Raniparaj people of Sankheda taluka and 30 villages of Tilakwada pata-mahal in the Baroda district and Mahuva, Vyara, Songadh and Mangrol talukas of the Navsari district where the backward Raniparaj people predominate as cultivators. Cases under this Act are conducted by the naib subas.

The following table shows the nature and extent of the work done under the Act during the year under report:—

Type of cases	1945-46				1944-45					
	Arr-eas	Cases recd.	Total	Dis-posal	Arr-eas	Arr-eas	Cases recd.	Total	Dis-posal	Arr-eas
BY TENANTS										
1. Ejectment of tenants.	38	216	254	251	3	1	214	245	207	38
2. Modification of rent.	147	191	338	321	17	7	493	500	353	147
3. Fixing of rents	49	188	237	170	67	9	539	548	499	49
Total ...	234	595	829	742	87	17	1,276	1,293	1,059	234
BY LAND HOLDERS										
1. Restoration of possession of land.	39	77	116	72	44	25	71	96	57	39
2. Suits for recovery of arrears of rent.	63	270	333	225	108	18	162	180	117	63
Total ...	102	347	449	297	152	43	233	276	174	102

215. THE ANKADIA VILLAGES' TENANTS ACT, 1934—To safeguard the interests of tenants in the Thakarati Ankadia villages and to regulate the relations between the Ankadedars of such villages and their tenants, the Ankadia Village Tenants' Act was brought into force in 1934. This Act is applicable to 33 villages of Baroda, Mehsana and Amreli districts. Cases under this Act are conducted by the naib subas. The Sar Suba is the appellate authority. During the year under report, 26 cases were received in Visnagar division in the

Mehsana district and all were disposed of. No cases were filed in Navsari, Amreli and Okhamandal districts during the year under report; while 7 cases were received in the Baroda district and they are for arrears and restoration of possession of Ankadedars.

216. **THE DEBT CONCILIATION ACT** — The primary object of this legislation is to reduce the burden of agricultural indebtedness through conciliation. This Act has been applied to Karjan, Padra, Sinor, Dabhoi, Sankheda, Vaghodia and Tilakwada talukas of the Baroda district; Patan, Harij and Chanasma talukas of the Mehsana district; and all the talukas of the Navsari and the Amreli districts.

These Boards are presided over by the naib subas except in the case of Dhari taluka, where a retired State officer is appointed by the Government to work as President. The President is assisted by three to nine members nominated from the public of the respective taluka. Where there is a land mortgage Bank, one of the directors of the Bank serves on the Board.

This Act is applicable to agriculturists whose income does not exceed Rs. 1,500 and whose income from agriculture is not less than two-thirds of their total income. The debt for which conciliation is sought should be not less than Rs. 100 and not more than Rs. 25,000.

During the year under report, the conciliation Boards dealt with 61 cases in which the aggregate claims were for Rs. 85,655. Conciliation in 25 cases with the claim for Rs. 24,760 was effected for Rs. 17,426 or 65·7 per cent of the demand.

217. **THE BACKWARD CLASSES LAND PROTECTION ACT, 1938** — The Raniparaj and other backward classes, because of their poverty and ignorance easily fall into debt and are steadily ousted from their lands by money lenders. In order to prevent this, the Act has been applied to Sankheda, Tilakwada, Dabhoi and Vaghodia talukas of the Baroda district and Songadh, Vyara, Mahuva and Mangrol talukas of the Navsari district. This legislation has saved the Raniparaj and other backward classes from being ousted from their lands. This Act prohibits the alienation of the lands of the backward classes, except on one year's lease, without the permission of naib suba, who is empowered to decide the cases under this Act. Land, alienated without such a permission, is restored by the naib suba. Under this Act, 53 cases were disposed of in the Baroda district and 49 in the Navsari district during the year under report.

218. **THE AGRICULTURIST DEBT REGULATION ACT, 1935** — The legislation was enacted to give relief to the smaller agriculturists, whose burden of debt had become intolerable, on account of

serious fall in prices. It was intended to be a purely temporary measure with the return to normal level in prices, it was hoped, the necessity for interference with the ordinary credit machinery would cease to exist.

It empowers the courts

- (a) to examine the history of the debt, reopen transactions and fix on equitable grounds the amount that should be paid; and
- (b) to decree repayment in easy instalments.

But relief under the Act is available to the smaller agriculturists only to those whose income is less than Rs. 750, provided that, at least two-thirds of the income is derived from agriculture.

The Act has been freely availed of by agriculturists, as will be seen from the following statement:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

	1945-46	1944-45	1943-44	Average of 1943-46	Average of 1937-40
Cases disposed of ...	2,711	3,212	3,641	3,188	5,900
Amount involved ...	14.3	14.2	15.9	14.8	13.12
Cases in which reduction in debt ordered.	209	194	27.5	226	550
Amount of reduction ...	0.14	0.16	0.18	0.14	3.8
Cases in which reduction in interest ordered.	1.60	1.95	2.16	1.90	4.60
Amount of reduction ...	0.06	0.05	0.09	0.08	1.7
Cases in which payment by instalments allowed.	372	499	364	412	470
Cases compromised ...	915	1,036	1,468	1,140	2,500
Cases otherwise disposed.	1,055	1,288	1,318	1,220	2,040
Court fees refunded.	0.55	0.55	0.63	0.58	0.86

The total number of cases filed during the preceding 3 years was 9,564 and their total value about Rs. 44 lakhs. Of these, nearly 33.7 per cent were compromised. Reduction in debt was effected in 8 per cent and of interest is 6.7 per cent of cases. Instalments were allowed in 13.7 per cent cases and the remaining 39 per cent cases were disposed of otherwise.

The following table shows the number of agriculturists of different communities who were benefited by the provisions of the Act during the year :—

Sl. No.	Communities	Number of persons receiving relief
1	Jat	357
2	Koli	139
3	Indiya	266
4	Jat	403
	Ma	233
6	Rajput	186
	... ..	32
8	... ..	43
9	Bania	28
10	Barot	51
11	Kumbhar	29
12	Va	12
13	Gosai, Bawa	10
14	Others... ..	948
Total ...		3,417

CHAPTER XVI

AGRICULTURE

219. ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT — The activities of the department consist of:—

1. Research :
Plant breeding and plant protection,
Agricultural chemistry.
2. Agriculture :
Development,
Propaganda,
Education.
3. Agricultural Engineering,
4. Horticulture,
5. Soil conservation,
6. Marketing,
7. Veterinary.

1. Research

220. PLANT BREEDING AND PLANT PROTECTION — *Plant breeding* : Selection work on important crops like paddy, bajra, Kodra, tuer, guvar, math and til was carried out during the year under the direction of the Economic Botanist at the different departmental farms. Though the weather conditions during the year were far from ideal, encouraging results were nevertheless obtained. Indications are not lacking that promising strains of most of these different crops will be forthcoming in the near future, which will be superior to existing varieties at least in yield if not in quality.

In the past, much of the effort of the botanical section has been devoted to a study of the root rot of the cotton plant but in future this work will be given up to enable the staff to devote most of its energies to the vital study of food crops.

Plant Protection : With a view to checking the ravages of grain smut of jowar and loose smut of wheat, experiments were carried on and satisfactory results were obtained by the very simple expedient of soaking the seed in water for four hours and allowing

it to die in the shade. This method has proved successful in combating both of these diseases. Similar results have been obtained by treating the seed with Agrosan 6, or with finely powdered sulphur. Dusting with sulphur makes the readiest appeal of all to the cultivator for the treatment is ridiculously cheap, thoroughly effective and can be carried out by any cultivator for himself. It has also been shown that the seedling blight of cotton, another seed borne disease, can be adequately controlled by soaking the seed for 30 minutes in a 0.25 per cent solution of Nomersan seed dressing. The crinkle disease of tobacco continued to be in evidence but so far no satisfactory way of dealing with it has been discovered apart from uprooting and burning all plants as soon as they are seen to be affected.

The protection of the cotton crop against the cotton spotted boll worm, merely by the timely removal of the previous stubble, continued to be very effectively secured by the operation of the Pest Control Act. In 1945-46, only 2 per cent of the area was affected by the boll worm compared with 4 per cent in the previous year and 40 per cent before the Act came into force. The number of defaulters, who had to be fined for infringement of the Act, was only 92 as against 164 in 1944-45 and 340 in 1943-44.

221. AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY — During the year, detailed analysis of the different soils in the State was continued and experiments were conducted to study different soil and crop relationships. One curious reaction observed in the course of those studies is that in some soils, there is not only no response to manuring with phosphatic fertilizers but their application has actually a depressing effect on the yield, a phenomenon, which, from present observations would seem to be associated in some way with a deficiency of organic matter in such soils.

The soil of the Harij dry farm, which has been regularly examined for its salt content during the last five years, is at last showing signs of appreciable reduction of salt content in the topmost layers, so that the work of reclamation would now seem to be taking effect.

The work on the composting of town refuse continued throughout the year and altogether 1,95,500 cubic feet of compost were prepared compared with 1,02,600 cubic feet in the previous year. Of the twenty-two municipalities that had sanitary inspectors trained for this work, only thirteen could be said to be taking a real live interest in the work.

2. Agriculture

222. DEVELOPMENTAL WORK — Altogether there are fourteen purely agricultural farms in the State, the purpose of which generally is to carry the products of research one step nearer the village. They

test under strictly controlled conditions, the merits of strains of seeds that have been isolated by the Economic Botanist or that have been imported from elsewhere, and see how far they are suited to the peculiar conditions of soil and climate represented by these different farms. They weigh up the economic utility of the suggestions and products of research and study the efficacy of different manures, different treatments and different implements, which come to notice from time to time. They are, as it were, a clearing house of information, so that every recommendation emanating from them has the hallmark of approval on it before it is passed on to the cultivator. These farms are also responsible for the raising of initial stocks of pedigree seed of selected strains, to be further multiplied by the department's registered growers. Harij in Mehsana district, however, is a special purpose farm for studying methods of reducing the excessive concentration of sodium salts in the soil which at present prevents cropping of any kind being carried out.

At these farms varietal trials were carried out on a wide range of crops including juar, bajri, paddy, wheat, cotton, sugarcane and pulses of different kind; the responses of different crops to various manurial treatments were also studied.

223. PROPAGANDA — The district staff visited a total of 730 villages where demonstrations were carried out to show the advantage of departmental seeds, fertilizers and implements; in addition graduate assistants with itinerant carts visited a further 260 villages including 34 in the attached areas. Lectures on agricultural subjects illustrated by lantern slides and cinema films were given on those occasions by the travelling assistants and it is estimated that 1,36,000 cultivators were contacted in this way alone.

The most spectacular work of the department at the present time is undoubtedly the almost total replacement by new and improved varieties of the local cottons that used to be grown in Baroda. Suyog cotton is now grown to the exclusion of practically all others south of the Narbada; Vijaya covers almost the entire area between the Narbada and the Sabarmati; Wagotar is being rapidly extended in the area to the north of the Sabarmati. It is estimated that the increased cash returns to the cultivator in 1945-46 alone, as the result of the introduction of those varieties, is in the vicinity of Rs. 38,00,000. In connection with this very creditable development, the department sold no less than 45,000 maunds of improved seed in the course of the year.

224. EDUCATION — Courses of instruction in agriculture and horticulture were conducted as usual at Baroda, Jagudan and Amreli, the most important being that held at the Agricultural Institute, Baroda. Here a long course is held extending over the entire agricultural year, but in addition to the long course, short courses were also arranged for such specific subjects as tobacco cultivation and curing, poultry management, horticulture and the care, maintenance and working of

tractors and oil engines. Agricultural schools for the children of backward classes have been established at Deodarda and Dabhoi, but it has to be regretfully acknowledged that these schools and the institution at Jagudan do not, for some reason not yet fully appreciated, make the popular appeal which it was originally thought they would.

3. Agricultural Engineering

225. ENGINEERING — This section devoted most of its energies to increasing the supply of water available to cultivators and during the year, a programme of constructing 800 wells at a cost of Rs. 11,20,000 was undertaken : by the end of the year, 673 wells had been completed (including some left unfinished at the end of the previous year) and 184 were under construction. In addition to the sinking of new wells, however, the section also strove to increase the capacity of existing wells by blasting down into the solid rock in rocky strata, and by boring where the soil is of such a nature that boring can be advantageously carried out. Altogether, 99 wells were blasted and 52 successfully bored, yielding an increased capacity of 107 and 102 kos respectively. It is estimated that as a consequence of the cumulative result of the work done by the section during the last three years by way of providing fresh supplies of water and increasing existing supplies, some 14,500 acres have been supplied with water leading to an increase in the food supply by approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of maunds of grain. In addition to well boring, however, the section ploughed 1,539 bighas of land with tractors which is expected to add some 18,000 maunds of grain to the food supply.

The demand for the departmental A. G. hoe is still brisk and the section checked 1,587 of them, which were distributed to various depots in accordance with the directions of the circle officers.

4. Horticulture

226. HORTICULTURE — The work of the section is centred at Baroda farm where the fruit plantation gave very satisfactory results during the year : there was an excellent crop of grape fruits and of grapes but pomegranates and figs do not appear to do so well under Baroda conditions. At the sub-station at Gandevi, citrus and guava are now coming into bearing and the plantations of mango and chiku are becoming well established. The pine-apple crop at this station is an outstanding success, and it has been demonstrated that under careful management, involving fortnightly irrigations, excellent crops can be obtained. Of the different varieties tried, Giant Kew is the most prolific and as the result of its performance in the Government orchard, its cultivation has now been taken up by several growers in the neighbourhood. At Dhari and Kodinar, fruit growers' associations have been established in connection with the department's nurseries at these places and their members are supplied with seedlings and grafts at very nominal rates. A total of 11,000 grafts were prepared and

25,000 papaya seedlings raised at the nurseries and there was a brisk demand for these at both centres.

The section took an active part in the Grow More Vegetables campaign and sold 111 lbs. of vegetable seeds; while it raised and distributed free of cost 38,300 seedlings in order to encourage the cultivation of vegetables in the kitchen gardens of Baroda city. These were distributed in lots of not more than 50 per family. The section also prepared several fruit products in the laboratory and gave periodical demonstrations of the best methods of preserving one's surplus fruit and vegetables.

5. Soil conservation

227. SOIL CONSERVATION — A modest beginning has been made towards a study of soil conservation methods on a block of land, some four square miles in area and about three miles north of the town of Dhari, which is fairly typical of large tracts of denuded and eroded countryside found in that area. Such various accepted methods as contour trenching, gully-plugging, improvement of grass cover and establishment of trees are all being tried out with a view to preserving and improving the soil cover. During the year, some six miles of trenches—each of which is ten feet long, two feet broad and one foot deep—were dug in a staggered manner over an area of 650 bighas. It has been observed that similar contour trenches dug in earlier years have served their purpose of checking the run off very effectively: they are gradually being silted up, a useful cover of grass is being established in and around them and it is estimated that in spite of the deprivations of wild animals and damage caused by fires, some 25,000 trees have become established in those trenches. In the area itself, however, as distinct from the actual trenches in it, the general growth of grass and other vegetation is improving year by year. The poor quality grasses where they still persist are making much better growth than in the unprotected area, but they are gradually being ousted by better types as the more exacting conditions favourable to their growth are being established.

On the cultivated lands, contour bunding is being carried out on areas which are showing signs of scouring but although progress is being made, it is slow, as the cultivators are still sceptical and consequently inclined to be obstructive.

6. Marketing section

228. MARKETING — No marketing survey of any important commodity was carried out during the year but the control of the export of ghee from Mehsana and Amreli districts was operated by the section as in previous years. The section was also in charge of the export and import of buffaloes in connection with the supply of buffaloes to the stables at Bombay and Surat.

The egg grading work in Navsari was given up in the course of the year because as the result of a ban having been imposed on the export of eggs from that district, the grading of eggs for exports automatically collapsed.

Grade specifications for wool were drawn up in the course of the year under the direction of the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India and subsequently arrangements were made through the Textile Commissioner, Government of India, for the despatch to America of a trial consignment of 180 bales of Pattanwalli wool to find out what the true value of this wool actually was.

7. Veterinary

229. VETERINARY — At the beginning of the year, the section had 34 veterinary dispensaries under its control, together with one in the attached areas, but one of these had to be closed down in course of the year for want of a qualified surgeon to look after it. As usual, the services rendered by these dispensaries were appreciated by animal owners and in the course of the year, 62,789 cases were treated as compared with 66,433 in the previous year: Satisfactory as these figures are, the fact still remains, however, that only a small fraction of the cattle population in the State receives veterinary aid when required. Practically, all these cases that have been treated are animals from places within walking distance of the dispensary; the number of animals left at hospitals for treatment is infinitesimal, partly on account of the trouble of getting them to the hospital, and partly on account of the heavy cost of maintenance.

The number of outbreaks of contagious diseases reported during the year was 534 against 474 in the previous year and the number of vaccinations and inoculations increased correspondingly from 80,847 to 82,657. The sectional laboratories carried out investigations in the case of fourteen diseases, examined 1,428 pathological specimens and produced 1,23,240 doses of goat-virus vaccine for the use of the State and neighbouring areas.

In the course of the year, five more State students were sent to different veterinary colleges with a view to obtaining a degree in the science. The animal husbandry school, run in association with the Makarpura Palace Dairy, started the session with five departmental stockmen attending for refresher courses and ten entrants; but one of the latter had to give up as he was unable to follow the teaching imparted. The new course that started on the 1st July 1946 opened as usual with five departmental officers and ten fresh entrants, of whom one was a non-Baroda subject.

230. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure of the department during the year was Rs. 9.8 lakhs as against Rs. 12.16 lakhs in the preceding year.

CHAPTER XVII

CO-OPERATION

231. **FEATURES OF RECENT DEVELOPMENT** — In the development of co-operation, the department continued to follow the policy of consolidation and of expansion of the movement to include "better produce, better sale and better living," so that the societies should become centres of village reconstruction. The main features of this development are :—

Firstly, the reconditioning of weak societies : A thorough inquiry is made into the financial condition of societies, which have failed to repay their loans to central banks. The debts of societies, which are solvent and give hope of improvement, are scaled down by conciliation, on condition that members meet their instalments regularly, and programmes of repayment are drawn up. On the other hand, societies, in which reconstruction is not likely to be successful, are taken into liquidation.

Secondly, the introduction of controlled credit system under which loans advanced are for agricultural operations and are limited to a proportion of the value of the produce, calculated according to the fixed rates on the cultivated area. Repayment is assured by insisting on the sale of the produce through the society.

Thirdly, insistence on the quality of the movement in respect of future extension: New rural credit societies are registered only when the need is clearly established and they have succeeded in enlisting the co-operation of disinterested workers.

Fourthly, extension of co-operation to non-credit work: The department devoted considerable attention to the extension of co-operation to various forms of non-credit works, so as to emphasise the primary idea of co-operation, namely thrift, and make the co-operative society the centre of village life, embracing all its activities. The large expansion of co-operative sale of cotton, paddy and vegetables, and the part played by the consumers' movement in the supply of grain and household requirements are notable developments of recent years.

The magnitude of the work done by co-operative societies in procuring and distributing food, cloth and other necessities of life can be judged from the fact that, during the year, 302 societies supplied

goods worth over Rs. 140 lakhs to a major portion of the population of the State, living in a thousand villages and towns.

Fifthly, education in co-operative methods and auditing: Trained secretaries for the societies and an efficient Government audit are the two most important conditions for successful expansion of co-operative movement. The Central Co-operative Institute regularly holds classes at Baroda and taluka centres for training secretaries in principles of co-operation, rural economics and accounts.

232. CENTRAL SURVEY — The total number of societies increased by 22 from 1,487 to 1,509, but of these, 195 or 13 per cent were in liquidation. There were 1,314 societies working as against 1,261 in the preceding year. Of these, 847 were credit societies — 9 central, 662 agricultural and 176 non-agricultural. Of the 467 non-credit societies — 286 were agricultural and 181 non-agricultural.

Of the 662 agricultural primary credit societies working, 642 were classified and 183 or 28.5 per cent were placed in class A (thoroughly good), 197 or 30.7 per cent in class B (having defects and mistakes in account), 126 or 20 per cent in class C (not falling under class A, B and D) and 134 or 20.8 per cent in class D (bad and liable to be closed if they fail to improve within 2 years). There was no improvement in percentage of B and D class societies as compared with the previous year, but that of A declined from 29 to 28.5 per cent and that of C from 21.5 to 20.0 per cent.

The total membership increased from 1.25 lakhs to 1.32 lakhs or by 5.5 per cent. The average membership per society was 87.6 as against 84.1 in the preceding year. It is established that the movement directly affects 20.8 per cent of the total population; the agricultural societies about 10.5 per cent of the village population and the non-agricultural about 48.4 per cent of the town population.

The financial position showed a proportionate improvement. The working capital increased from Rs. 199.5 lakhs to Rs. 201.8 lakhs. The share capital increased from Rs. 28.2 lakhs to Rs. 32.39 lakhs; the deposits from members from Rs. 72.9 lakhs to Rs. 78.68 lakhs. The reserve fund increased from Rs. 26.5 lakhs to Rs. 29.4 lakhs.

Owned capital formed 30.6 per cent of the working capital as against 27.4 per cent in the preceding year; loans and deposits 72.6 per cent as against 69.6 per cent.

Loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 97.20 lakhs as against Rs. 74.38 lakhs in the preceding year. The repayments increased from Rs. 70.05 lakhs to Rs. 98.07 lakhs.

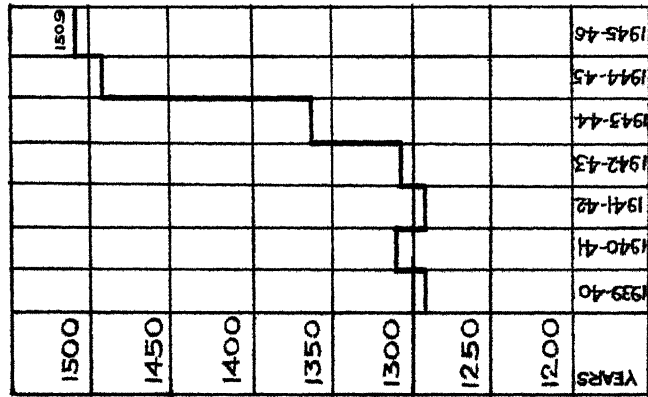
The loans outstanding at the end of the year, decreased from Rs. 74.2 lakhs to Rs. 73.3 lakhs, but the overdues increased by Rs. 1.48 lakhs to Rs. 9.45 lakhs.

CHART SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN THE

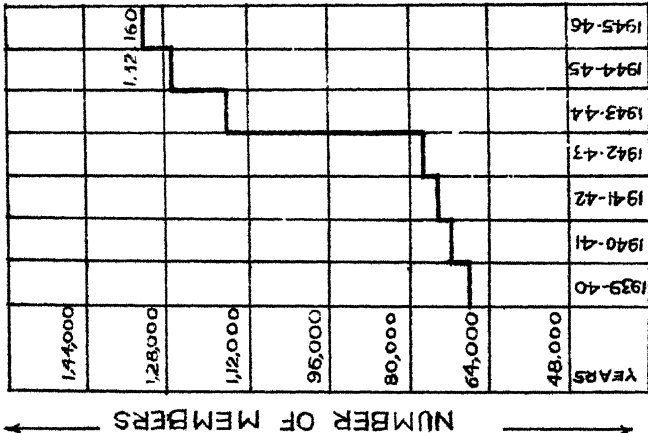
BARODA STATE

1939 - 40 TO 1945 - 46

NUMBER OF SOCIETIES



MEMBERSHIP



AVERAGE MEMBERSHIP PER SOCIETY

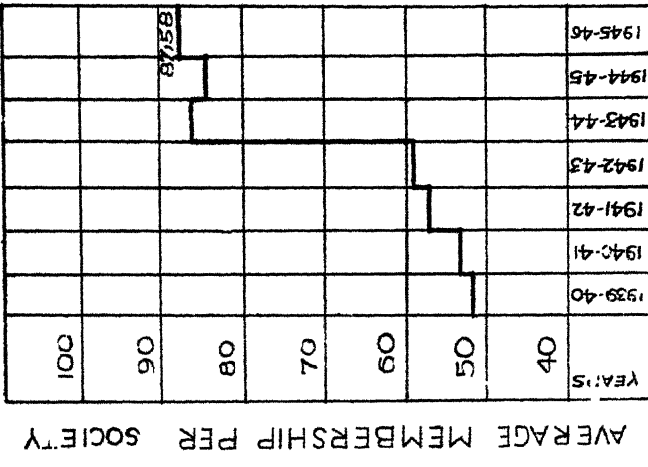
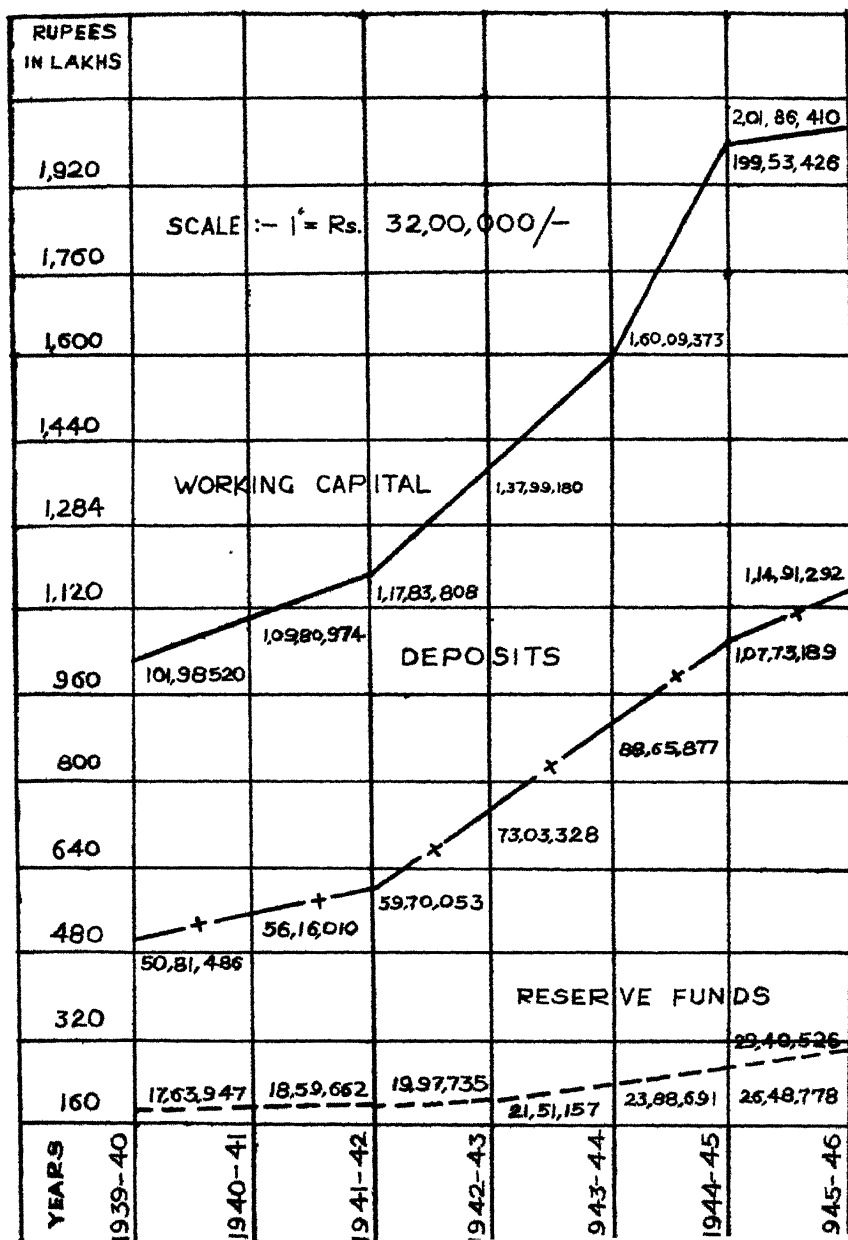


CHART SHOWING THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN THE BARODA STATE.

1939-40 TO 1945-46.



233. LAND MORTGAGE BANKS — There are two land mortgage banks in the State. The Government give the following concessions to these banks :—

- (1) The repayment of the principal and interest of the debentures is guaranteed;
- (2) land valuation officers are lent to the banks free of charge in the initial stages, and a grant is given towards the expenses of management.

The Baroda Land Mortgage Bank continued operations all over the Baroda district, except in the Petlad and Bhadran talukas. It had a membership of 1,825, a share capital of Rs. 1.75 lakhs and a working capital of Rs. 7.67 lakhs. Its reserves amount to Rs. 92,261 and now form 52 per cent of its share capital.

The bank has floated debentures of Rs. 5 lakhs to be redeemed after ten years for which it maintains a redemption fund. During the year, Rs. 16,562 were credited to this fund which now amounts to Rs. 1.0 lakh.

The bank advanced fresh loans to 37 persons amounting to Rs. 0.83 lakh, as against Rs. 0.64 lakh to 27 persons in the preceding year. The total amount advanced, since the establishment of the bank in 1933, was Rs. 10.39 lakhs to 571 members for liquidation of debts amounting to Rs. 12.00 lakhs, the debts having been scaled down by conciliation by Rs. 1.73 lakhs. All instalments falling due during the year were repaid, the total recoveries being Rs. 0.65 lakh in principle and Rs. 0.30 lakh in interest. This year the members not only paid their instalments but also paid Rs. 0.39 lakh in addition.

The Navsari Land Mortgage Bank continued its operation in all the talukas of the district. It had a membership of 512. Its share capital increased from Rs. 0.46 lakh to Rs. 0.51 lakh and its working capital from Rs. 2.25 lakhs to Rs. 2.68 lakh. The reserves now amount to Rs. 7.41 lakhs and form 13 per cent of the share capital.

The bank has issued debentures of Rs. 1 lakh to be redeemed after ten years for which it maintains a redemption fund. During the year, Rs. 3,000 were credited to this fund which now amounts to Rs. 9,000.

The Government have placed at the disposal of the bank Rs. 1 lakh for advancing loans to Raniparaj societies to enable their members to redeem their debts. Loans amounting to Rs. 0.56 lakh were advanced to 39 members as against Rs. 0.42 lakh to 29 members during the preceding year. The total amount advanced, since the beginning of the bank in 1939, was Rs. 3.22 lakhs for liquidation of debts amounting to Rs. 3.63 lakhs, the debts having been scaled down by conciliation by Rs. 0.41 lakh. All instalments falling due during

the year except Rs. 417 were recovered; the total recoveries amounting to Rs. 16,838.

The government gave a grant of Rs. 865, equal to half the cost of management during the year, in addition to the services of a land valuation officer.

234. CENTRAL BANKS — As in the previous year, there were 8 central banks and Banking unions working in the State. Besides this, one was in liquidation and the other had not started work. These banks generally finance only affiliated societies, but the Baroda, Mehsana and Petlad banks have permitted to finance individuals so that they may be able to utilize their large accumulated surpluses in a profitable way.

The membership of these banks increased from 2,035 to 2,074, of the affiliated societies from 1,214 to 1,243, and of individuals from 821 to 831.

The share capital of the banks increased during the year, from Rs. 3.85 lakhs to Rs. 3.94 lakhs, while the working capital decreased from Rs. 34.02 lakhs to Rs. 24.15 lakhs, deposits from societies from Rs. 7.25 lakhs to Rs. 7.17 lakhs and other deposits from Rs. 9.58 to 8.94 lakhs. The reserve fund increased from Rs. 3.61 lakhs to Rs. 5.00 lakhs. The marked decrease in the working capital was due to the loan of Rs. 11 lakhs advanced by the government to the Mehsana Central Bank for procuring and distributing grains.

The banks advanced to societies Rs. 8.80 lakhs. The loans to individuals amounted to Rs. 1.12 lakhs. The total loans advanced were about Rs. 10.00 lakhs. The recoveries of loans were satisfactory and increased from Rs. 9.22 lakhs to Rs. 10.51 lakhs.

The outstanding loans at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 8.79 lakhs as against Rs. 9.38 lakhs. The overdues from societies formed 20 per cent of the outstanding loans. The banks made a profit of Rs. 0.43 lakh as in the last year.

The important part played by the Mehsana bank, and to a less extent by the banks of Kodinar and Damnagar, in the purchase and distribution of grain, sugar etc., in their districts is shown by the following figures :—

				Sugar	Grain	*Value of goods supplied in lakhs of rupees
Mehsana Bank	...	...	...	16,006	79,412	21.69
Damnagar „	...	...	...	4,294	4,139	1.52
Kodinar „	...	...	...	6,008	17,330	3.63

The Kadihar Banking Union purchased and sold its members' produce, cotton, groundnuts and jaggery worth Rs. 0.93 lakhs. It assisted its members by providing them with pure seeds and fertilizers.

235. AGRICULTURAL BANKS — The agricultural banks are permitted to advance loans to individuals as well as societies. The four banks of Bhadran, Amreli, Vyara and Songadh, continued their useful work and showed some slight progress during the year. Their membership increased from 1,479 to 1,513, of which 151 were societies. Their share capital was Rs. 2.07 lakhs but the deposits increased from Rs. 7.33 lakhs to Rs. 8.54 lakhs and their working capital from Rs. 11.14 lakhs to 12.70 lakhs. Their reserves improved by Rs. 0.28 lakh.

The loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 0.35 lakh. Repayment, from both individuals and societies, was about Rs. 0.45 lakh but the loans due decreased from Rs. 1.100 lakhs to Rs. 0.77 lakh.

The agricultural banks of Amreli, Vyara and Songadh purchased and distributed food grains etc. worth Rs. 22.40 lakhs. The details of the work done are shown below :—

		B. Mds.	Rs. lakhs
Vyara Bank	... Purchased from cultivators and grain supplied to the State.	95,895	15.98
Amreli "	... Purchased and distributed in the district.	35,972	4.32

236. SUPERVISING UNIONS — The Vyara and Mangrol supervising unions continued their activities. The Vyara union had 60 societies affiliated to it with a membership of 2,860 and a working capital of Rs. 3.72 lakhs. It looks after and supervises the work of 23 women thrift societies. It enlisted the assistance of 13 societies in the work of civil supplies among the Raniparaj, who were supplied with grain, sugar etc., worth Rs. 0.53 lakh by these unions.

The Mangrol union, which works in the Raniparaj area, had 53 societies affiliated with a membership of 1,439 and a working capital of Rs. 2.70 lakhs.

237. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES — The number of agricultural societies working during the year was 948 as against 934 in the previous year. The number of credit and thrift societies increased during the year from 737 to 752 but of non-credit societies remained the same i. e. 197 as last year.

The membership rose from 47,735 to 50,262 and the average membership per society from 43.5 to 45.0.

The share capital increased from Rs. 6.36 lakhs to Rs. 7.47 lakhs. The working capital increased from Rs. 61.11 lakhs to Rs. 61.78 lakhs, because of the civil supply work undertaken by old societies as well as by those organised for that purpose. The deposits from members increased from Rs. 13.84 lakhs to Rs. 13.34 lakhs; of non-members from Rs. 12.80 lakhs to Rs. 13.74 lakhs while loans and deposits from societies, banks and government decreased from Rs. 11.57 lakhs to Rs. 9.94 lakhs.

Loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 59.60 lakhs against Rs. 40.07 lakhs in the preceding year and the repayments Rs. 60.03 lakhs as against Rs. 40.12 lakhs. The outstanding loans, at the end of the year, were Rs. 30.54 lakhs as against Rs. 30.98 lakhs at the end of 1944-45. The overdues, however, increased from Rs. 4.74 lakhs to 5.33 lakhs and formed 17.4 per cent of the outstanding loans.

238. PRIMARY CREDIT SOCIETIES — Co-operative credit has not succeeded in replacing to any appreciable extent the old sawkar system prevailing in villages. The necessary insistence on sufficient guarantees and on strictness and regularity in repayments do not make for the popularity of the movement. Although there were 803 societies during the year, the average membership per society was only 30.7 and the average working capital Rs. 4,740 and more than a sixth of the societies were under liquidation. However, the indirect effect in reducing the rate of interest and the severity of conditions and terms of loan have been beneficial. Moreover, every year shows a slight improvement in their work.

Fresh loans advanced during the year, amounted to Rs. 12.17 lakhs as against Rs. 11.32 lakhs in the preceding year. Repayments increased from Rs. 9.85 lakhs to Rs. 10.73 lakhs and consequently, outstanding loans due at the end of the year also increased from Rs. 4.88 lakhs to 5.21 lakhs and formed 21.9 per cent of the outstanding loans, as against 20.0 per cent in the preceding year.

The policy of rehabilitation and reconstruction of dormant and weak societies, followed since 1938, is having a beneficial effect on the co-operative movement. Since then, 195 societies have been reconstructed, of which 4 societies during the year and in all 36 have cleared their debts and 1,823 members have paid up their dues.

The instalments falling due, during the year, amounted to Rs. 2.77 lakhs, of which Rs. 2.49 lakhs were recovered. These were due from 3,157 members.

One of the basic principles of co-operation being thrift, it was enforced in the primary co-operative credit societies with the result that 10,034 members put compulsory deposits amounting to Rs. 1.29

lakhs during the year, the total amount of such savings being Rs. 5.68 lakhs as against Rs. 5.32 lakhs in the preceding year. Moreover, 182 societies have adopted the byelaws of the provident fund scheme and the number of members, taking advantage of it, increased from 3,044 to 3,356 with the result that they subscribed Rs. 0.29 lakh to this fund and the total at the end of the year was Rs. 1.76 lakhs as against Rs. 1.55 lakhs in the preceding year. Some societies are taking advantage of the Co-operative Insurance scheme and have permitted the payment of premium from the interest of provident fund and compulsory savings.

239. NON-CREDIT SOCIETIES — The following non-credit societies were working during the year:

Thrift Societies : There were 90 agricultural thrift societies as against 91 in the preceding year, one was for men and 89 for women. The membership fell from 2,197 to 2,173, savings however increased from Rs. 44,452 to Rs. 45,908 and the working capital from Rs. 48,402 to Rs. 48,960.

Cotton sale societies : In all, 42 societies did the work of joint-sale of cotton of their members. These societies pooled 12,300 bhars (2,95,200 maunds) of cotton belonging to 3,603 members as against 9,700 bhars (2,32,800 maunds) belonging to 3,231 members in the preceding year. Of this, 1,032 bhars of cotton were sold unginned while the remaining 11,268 bhars were ginned and sold as fully pressed bales. The total realisation of 'kapas' cotton seed and lint amounted to Rs. 36.42 lakhs. The cotton sale societies over and above their usual work of joint-sale advanced short term crop-loans amounting to Rs. 1.99 lakhs to 1,300 members on control credit system.

The cotton sale societies of Mangrol and Kamrej talukas were under the Government marketing scheme and sold their cotton through the Navsari district cotton union at its office at Surat. This union also helped the societies in getting the cotton insured against fire and rendered valuable services in marketing the bales at Surat and Bombay markets. It also supervised and inspected the working of the affiliated societies. It received a grant of Rs. 2,000 from the Government for meeting the cost of management.

Rural Stores (supply societies) : There were 91 supply societies. These had a membership of 8,482 and a working capital of Rs. 8.09 lakhs. Of these, 70 stores worked satisfactorily. They purchased rice, wheat, millets, sugar, kerosene etc., worth Rs. 33.47 lakhs and supplied it to the population of about 3.50 lakhs.

Ginning and pressing societies : There were 5 ginning and pressing societies. These were situated at Kosamba, Baben and Navsari in the Navsari district and at Samlaya and Karjan in the

Baroda district. They had a membership of 1,934 and a share capital of Rs. 2.77 lakhs. Their factories, lands, buildings etc., were worth Rs. 5.52 lakhs.

Of these, only 3 worked during the year. They ginned 11,112 bhas of cotton as against 11,048 bhas in the previous year.

Power pump societies : There were 7 power pump societies working. These irrigated 292 bighas of 114 members.

The crops irrigated are mainly wheat, tobacco, paddy and vegetables. The irrigation charges vary from Rs. 1-8-0 to Rs. 3-8-0 per hour.

Fruit and vegetable growers' societies : In order to create an interest in the production of better qualities of fruits and vegetables amongst the cultivators and to assist them in marketing their produce, 10 societies were organised, 8 in the preceding year and 2 in the year under report. These societies had a membership of 859 and a share capital of Rs. 9,025. They sold 62,670 B. Maunds of vegetables, mainly parvars, potatoes, cauliflowers, cabbages etc. worth Rs. 5.28 lakhs in and outside Baroda State. Over and above this, some of the societies like Chhani and Padra, purchased from Simla and supplied to their members 7,000 B. Maunds of potato-seeds worth Rs. 1.96 lakhs.

A co-operative horticultural society at Baroda was formed to assist the owners of gardens in Baroda City in the proper laying out of fruit, vegetable and flower gardens by providing them with skilled labour, seed and seedlings, grafts, manures etc. The society had a membership of 46. It transacted business worth over Rs. 21,000. It supplied labour, seed, seedlings, farm yard and chemical manures worth Rs. 3,228. It held a fruit flower and vegetable show at Baroda which was visited by over 10,000 persons.

Development Associations : Of the 24 development associations, the Mangrol taluka development society only did useful work like attending to village sanitation and distribution of plants and vegetable seeds.

Primary Education Societies : There were 3 primary schools teaching upto the IV standard organised on co-operative lines in the Raniparaj area of the Mangrol taluka. Elementary training in spinning and agriculture is given at these schools. There were 87 students on the roll.

240. NON-AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES — Three important features mark the development of urban co-operation: (1) The extension of the co-operative movement in supplying grain, sugar, kerosene and the other necessities of life, (2) The organisation of socie-

ties among the factory labourers for the promotion of thrift and (3) the organisation of Housing societies for better and healthy houses.

The number of societies was 378, but of these, 25 or 7 per cent were under liquidation. During the year, 11 co-operative stores, 21 housing societies and 7 other types of societies were registered so that the number of societies working was 353 as against 314 in the previous year. Of these, 192 were credit and thrift societies, 66 stores, 20 students' stores and 67 housing societies.

The membership increased from 73,125 to 77,487, the average membership per society being 229 as against 209 in the preceding year. The share capital increased from Rs. 15.6 lakhs to Rs. 18.7 lakhs, the working capital from Rs. 9.53 lakhs to Rs. 105.56 lakhs, and members' deposits increased by Rs. 6 lakhs. The reserves amounted to Rs. 6.03 lakhs and formed 32 per cent of the share capital.

Loans advanced amounted to Rs. 25.98 lakhs as against Rs. 23.07 and repayments to Rs. 26.68 lakhs as against Rs. 20.01 lakhs in the previous year; the outstanding loans decreased from Rs. 26.58 lakhs to Rs. 25.89 lakhs; overdues increased to Rs. 2.59 lakhs and formed only 10.0 per cent of the loans outstanding.

241. URBAN BANKS AND SOCIETIES — The total number of societies including urban banks, Mill workers', Government Servants' and other credit societies with limited liability were 121 with a membership of 45,560 as against 117 societies with a membership of 45,416 in the previous year. The share capital increased from Rs. 9.08 lakhs to Rs. 9.38 lakhs, while the reserve and other funds increased from Rs. 3.76 lakhs to Rs. 4.58 lakhs. The deposits from members which primarily include compulsory savings, rose from Rs. 53.47 lakhs to 58.16 lakhs, while loans and deposits from non-members, societies, banks and Government altogether increased from Rs. 10.45 lakhs to Rs. 12.23 lakhs with the result that the working capital also registered a considerable increase of Rs. 7.59 lakhs, thus making it Rs. 84.37 lakhs at the end of the year.

Loans advanced increased by Rs. 2.79 lakhs while repayments by Rs. 6.66 lakhs with the effect that loans due by individuals at the end of the year fell from Rs. 25.90 lakhs to Rs. 25.15 lakhs. The overdues showed an increase of rupee one lakh and formed 9.2 per cent of the outstanding loans as against 5 per cent in the preceding year.

242. LABOURER'S CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES — The prosperity of the factory labour, specially of the textile mill workers, who received substantial dearness allowance, offered an opportunity to push forward co-operative movement and its ideal of thrift among the workers. The Government appointed a special officer for this purpose in 1943 whose efforts in this direction have met with considerable success.

So far, 24 societies with a membership of 19,827 have been organised. The share capital was Rs. 1.77 lakhs and the working capital Rs. 23.50 lakhs. Compulsory savings increased to Rs. 4.36 lakhs and dearness allowance savings to Rs. 17.12 lakhs.

According to the rules of these societies, 2 as. per rupee of dearness allowance and a compulsory savings contribution of as. 4 to Rs. 3 per month, varying according to the wages, is to be paid by each member.

243. OTHER SOCIETIES — Other societies working in urban areas were :

Government Servant societies : There were 15 societies with a membership of 5,658 and a working capital of Rs. 5.94 lakhs, of which the share capital was Rs. 1.08 lakhs, deposits Rs. 4.17 lakhs and reserve and other funds Rs. 0.49 lakh. They advanced loans amounting to Rs. 3.21 lakhs during the year, while repayments amounted to Rs. 2.71 lakhs and the outstanding loans to Rs. 4.55 lakhs.

Weavers' societies : There were 52 weavers' societies with a membership of 1,005 and a working capital of Rs. 29,945 at the end of the year. Loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 4,293, loans repaid to Rs. 7,254 and loans outstanding to Rs. 16,107.

Tanners' societies : There were 23 tanners' societies with a membership of 377 and a working capital of Rs. 20,100.

Loans advanced to 105 members amounted to Rs. 12,672, loans repaid to Rs. 9,714 and loans outstanding to Rs. 17,372.

Sweepers' societies : The main object of these societies is to relieve the sweepers from the hands of the usurious money-lenders and to inculcate thrift. There were 24 sweepers' societies with a membership of 1,418. During the year, Rs. 0.37 lakh were advanced to 481 members and the outstanding loans at the end of the year were Rs. 0.62 lakh.

Thrift societies : The number of non-agricultural thrift societies working was 22 with a working capital of Rs. 31,481, 3 for men and 19 for women. There were 626 members and their total savings was Rs. 38,553.

Urban stores : The Urban stores did useful work in supplying grain and necessities to their members and others. During the year, 12 new urban stores were registered making a total of 66 stores. But of these, only 57 with a membership of 20,444 and a share capital of Rs. 4.57 lakhs worked satisfactorily. They supplied grain worth Rs. 32.74 lakhs, sugar worth Rs. 5.05 lakhs and other materials worth Rs. 4.24 lakhs to about 4½ lakhs of people. There were 2 urban women stores conducted exclusively by women in Baroda city. They transacted business of Rs. 1.43 lakhs.

Milk depots : There were two milk supply societies in the State, one in Baroda city and the other at Padra. They supplied 1.39 lakhs lbs. of milk worth Rs. 23,800 and made profit of Rs. 113.

Students' societies : There were 20 students' societies with a membership of 2,028. They supplied school books, stationery etc., worth Rs. 13,932 against Rs. 8,141 in the previous year and made a profit of Rs. 1,055.

There were 4 students' societies working with the object of rendering financial assistance to students to prosecute higher studies. They had a membership, of 1,091 and a share capital of Rs. 0.81 lakh. The loans advanced amounted to Rs. 7,877 to 20 students, loans repaid to Rs. 11,815 and outstanding loans of 85 students to Rs. 60,200.

244. CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE SOCIETY — The society accepted 135 life proposals for Rs. 1.29 lakhs, during the year. It had in force in all 930 policies for Rs. 7.13 lakhs at the end of the year. The premium received was Rs. 34,875 and claims paid amounted to Rs. 8,274 during the year. The ratio of the cost of management to premium received increased from 24.7 per cent to 29 per cent.

245. HOUSING SOCIETIES — The number of housing societies working was 67, of which 21 were registered during the year. These had a membership of 2,308. Out of these, 36 were in the Baroda district, 5 in the Navsari district, 23 in the Mehsana district and 3 in the Amreli district. Of these, 4 have completed building houses, while 11 have obtained possession of land. Acquisition of suitable plots for the others is under consideration.

246. THE BARODA CO-OPERATIVE INSTITUTE — The institute has a membership of 1,019, of which 567 were societies and 452 individuals. Its total expenses during the year, amounted to Rs. 9,838. The Government subsidise it to the extent of half the cost of management, and the Baroda District Local Board gives a grant of Rs. 1,000 per year.

The institute did useful propaganda work in the State. It conducted a class at Baroda for training secretaries of co-operative societies in the principles and practice of co-operation and in accounts and auditing. It continued to edit "Gram Jivan", a monthly magazine dealing with co-operation, agriculture and village uplift. It organised intensive propaganda for rural uplift at various centres and co-ordinated the work of different societies by calling conferences to consider problems affecting large areas or field of work.

CHAPTER XVIII

COMMERCE

Development of Port Okha

247. EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE AT OKHA — The following table compares the Port's revenue and expenditure during the current and previous years :—

Items	Expenditure		Revenue	
	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45
(a) Port				
(1) Port office	1,62936	1,74,624	2,07,135	3,92,485
(2) Harbour Engineer's office	1,54,551	1,91,171	43,890	43,169
Total ...	3,17,517	3,65,795	3,41,025	4,35,654
(b) Customs at Okha including Sub-ports,	1,00,712	96,134	3,286,376	15,03,235
Grand Total ...	4,18,529	4,65,233	36,27,401	19,38,939

Cargo chargeable to duty of Rs. 11,92,642 was in the bond at the end of the year against Rs. 14,31,317 at the end of the year 1944-45.

The Customs revenue was Rs. 36,93,796; of this amount, Rs. 4,07,420 were paid to British India in settlement of final accounts for the British Indian official year 1945-46. The revenue after deducting this comes to Rs. 32,86,376.

248. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE — The capital expenditure at Okha during the year was Rs. 92,237. This brings the total capital expenditure upto the end of the year to Rs. 52,63,695. The main items of capital expenditure during the year consisted of small items like purchase of buoys and sinkers, lorry etc., and construction of few sheds and additions to buildings.

249. SHIPPING AND TRADE — The following table gives the details of shipping and cargo handled :—

		Number	Imports	Exports	Total
			<i>Figures in tons</i>		
Country crafts	1945-46	2,447	10,753	18,882	29,635
	1944-45	2,566	11,662	15,840	27,502
Coasting steamers	1945-46	7	566	2,504	2,570
	1944-45	4	1,464	2,618	4,082
Ocean-going steamers	1945-46	49	68,295	1,05,050	1,73,345
	1944-45	46	67,769	1,40,249	2,08,018
Grand Total	1945-46	2,503	79,614	1,25,936	2,05,550
	1944-45	2,616	80,835	1,58,707	2,39,602

There was no reduction in the number of steamers that called at Okha. The imports remained at practically the same level. The export tonnage shrank chiefly due to lower exports of cement. 79,971 tons cement and 30,009 tons salt were exported during the year against 1,30,128 and 14,029 tons respectively in previous year.

250. FOREIGN IMPORTS — There has been no marked import, from foreign countries of general goods except the usual consignments of dates from Iraq. Government of India (Food Department) imported 8,120 tons Australian Wheat via. Okha. Oils registered a decrease of 9,497 tons from 64,549 in 1945 to 55,052 in 1946.

251. ASSEMBLING PLANT OF MESSERS THE HINDUSTAN MOTORS LTD — Messrs The Hindustan Motors Ltd. have imported parts and have re-started assembling work.

252. IMPORT LICENSES — The number of import licenses given was 22 and the value of goods to be imported was Rs. 2,55,521.

Development of Commerce

253. TAX-FREE ZONES — A systematic plan for constituting tax free zones at trade centres where Municipalities levy octroi, has been adopted. Such zones have been established at Baroda and Kalol.

254. THE STATE ECONOMIC BOARD — The board consists of a Naib Dewan, who is the president, heads of revenue, public works, railway and police departments, and members representing trade, industry and agriculture. It replaces the Central Communication and the Railway Advisory Board with the following additional functions:—

- (1) To advise Government on all questions relating to the economic development of the State,
- (2) To co-ordinate the activities of the District Economic Boards and advise the Government on schemes submitted by these boards, and

- (3) To assist Development departments in working out important schemes and in making intensive studies of important questions.

In each district there is an economic board constituted on lines similar to the central board. The District Economic Boards held 6 meetings and dealt with 52 questions regarding the construction of roads and bridges. The State Economic Board held 2 meetings and considered 3 questions.

255. **PATENTS & DESIGNS** -- Besides inquiries about registration of Trade marks and Trade names, 33 applications were received for the grant of patents and 4 were pending during the previous year making a total of 37. Out of these, 6 applications were accepted, 26 were sealed during the year under report and one was rejected. Four were pending disposal. 26 patents were renewed during the year. The Baroda Trade Marks Act on the lines of the British Indian Trade Marks Act is sanctioned. After the rules under the said Act are published, the reciprocal arrangement will be put into effect in the Baroda State.

256. **THE WEIGHTS & MEASURES** — Inspectors carried out the work of verification and stamping of 15183 old and new Weights and Measures. The income derived from them was Rs. 6918.

257. **CONTROL ORDERS** — Control orders similar to those promulgated in British India relating to aluminium, scrap iron and steel, cotton and woolen cloth, paper, chemicals, imports etc. continued in force.

CHAPTER XIX

INDUSTRIES

258. GENERAL POLICY — The policy of His Highness' Government is to give assistance for starting new or developing existing industries in the following ways :—

Firstly, surveys and scientific experiments and investigations are carried out and the results made known to interested parties. Liberal grants are also made in aid of surveys, experiments &c., conducted by private persons or institutions.

Secondly, the State participates in the financing of private industries by subscribing a portion of the shares capital or by giving loans.

Thirdly, concessions in respect of Octroi duties, acquisition of land, &c. are granted.

Fourthly, by maintenance of an efficient system of banking.

Fifthly, propagation by means of industrial exhibitions and fairs.

259. RESEARCH — The Technological Institute is the centre of industrial research and investigations. It conducted investigations on (1) the fruit of *Zizyphus Xylopyrus*, a forest product of the State, for its tanning ingredients and properties,

(2) *Plantago Ovata*, *Forsk Isphgula* for its mucilage and the manufacture of Sodium Hydrosulphite and allied compounds,

(3) Waste tobacco products,

(4) the Proteins of defatted Mowra seedcake, and

(5) the preparation of Alkali and water soluble Ethyl cellulose.

Testing and analytical work carried out during the year comprised of the analysis of the samples of water, Anti-malaria oil, Ink powders, Honey, Oil and Oil Cakes, Disinfectants, Metals, Metallic Ores, Textile sizes, Mahua flowers, Vegetable ghee, Acids, Lime, Soda Ash, Tobacco for nicotine etc., received from various State departments and industrial concerns in the State.

The supply of writing Blue Black, Scarlet Red and also Black Fountain Pen Inks manufactured in the laboratory, to the city offices and institutions &c. was continued during the year. Help was provided to industries in the State by (1) rendering technical advice (2) demonstrations of improved technical methods and affording laboratory facilities to the works Chemists for technical and analytical work, (3) allowing the use of small scale mechanical equipment available in the laboratory for small manufacturers and (4) dissemination of information and processes and imparting necessary guidance in the use of Library.

260. CONCESSIONS — The department received 47 new applications during the year and 56 were pending at the end of the preceding year. Of these, 8 were sanctioned, 1 was disallowed by government and 19 were disposed of by the department. 75 were pending disposal at the end of the year.

Out of these 103 applications, 38 were for acquisition of land for factories, and 20 for granting loans for industrial purposes.

261. MINING — One new approval certificate was granted and 3 were renewed.

The geological survey of the Baroda State was made by Sir Cyril Fox, ex-Director, Geological Survey department, Government of India, who has recommended certain geological resources which are useful to Ceramic and glass industries &c. Genuine prominent industrialists are being advised by the department regarding recommendations made by Sir Cyril Fox.

Major industries

262. TEXTILE — The Textile industries continued to show progress under the impetus of conditions created by the war.

263. COTTON MILLS — 18 cotton mills were working in the State, of which 7 were in the Baroda district, 8 in the Mehsana and 3 in the Navsari district. Their consumption of cotton increased from 1,05,594 bales to 1,15,412. Of these, 71.5 per cent was Indian cotton as against 67 per cent in the previous year. The number of looms decreased from 6,960 to 6,875 and spindles decreased from 3,39,368 to 3,37,918. The capital invested came to Rs. 878 lakhs. The number of persons employed decreased from 25,026 to 24,888 and the total yarn produced increased from 348 lakhs lbs. to 375 lakhs lbs..

Two units for 19,000 spindles each have been sanctioned by the Government of India for starting textile mills in the State.

264. WOOLLEN MILLS — The entire production of Shri Dinesh Mills Ltd. Baroda was appropriated against orders of the Government of India for war and civil purposes. The total production of the mill

was 3.96 lakhs finished yards of woollen cloth, valued at about Rs. 17.78 lakhs as against cloth worth Rs. 24.25 lakhs in the previous year.

265. **CHEMICALS** — The chemical industry is the second major industry in the State. It has achieved rapid progress under the impetus of war conditions. There are three important chemical factories, namely, Alembic, the Tata Chemicals, and the Sarabhai Chemicals, and several other smaller concerns.

The Alembic Chemical Works Co. Ltd., Baroda, manufactures a number of chemicals and pharmaceutical products. Their working capital increased to Rs. 52.58 lakhs during the year. They have greatly expanded their plant and productive capacity, and are building a new laboratory building wherein various research departments of the company with appropriate equipments of latest designs will be housed on its completion.

The Tata Chemicals Ltd., Mithapur (Okhamandal) was started in 1939 with a paid up capital of Rs. 125 lakhs for the manufacture of heavy chemicals. They have increased their production and improved qualities of bleaching powder etc. They arranged for a thorough inspection of their plant by their Technical Consultants overseas and are carrying out necessary steps to work it in full capacity. During the year, they produced 41,750 tons of salt as against 37,000 tons in the previous year and heavy chemicals such as soda ash, bleaching powder etc.

The Sarabhai Chemicals, Baroda had to spend most part of the year in collecting and fitting up machinery and equipment. They produced fine chemicals and other medicinal and pharmaceutical products.

The Chemical Works at Petlad and the Star Chemical Works, Baroda, manufactured mainly sulphuric acid. The latter is installing various small plants with a view to increasing their productive capacity.

The Vimso Chemicals, Navsari, and the Baroda Chemicals, Dabhoi, manufactured methylated spirit and alcohol.

The National Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works at Navsari manufactured mainly medical and pharmaceutical products.

The Hindusthan Colour, Chemical & Mfg. Co. Ltd., Kathwada (T. Dehgam), manufactured starch, corn flour and desizing agents and bye-products like maize, oil, oil cakes etc.

The Sanitex Chemical Industries Ltd. at Baroda produced pharmaceuticals, textile auxiliaries, chemicals, silicate and disinfectants &c.

266. MISCELLANEOUS — There are also some other more important industries in the State. They are:

267. SUGAR — The Gandevi Sugar Works has been sold and dismantled;

268. MATCHES — The Datar Match Factory at Petlad produced 2,24,267 gross matches during the year as against 2,41,319 in the preceding year, the excise duty collected on these amounted to Rs. 4.19 lakhs as against Rs. 7.28 lakhs in the preceding year.

269. CHINA CLAY — The China Clay Works at Ransipur refined 722 tons of china clay during the year as against 523 tons in the preceding year. They paid a royalty of Rs. 2326 as against 2000 in the previous year.

270. SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS — Messrs. Powells Industries Ltd., Billimora, manufactured surgical instruments—Aseptic Hospital furniture, trusses and abdominal belts on a small scale. Their progress has been hampered for want of skilled labour, special machinery and raw materials.

271. POTTERY — The Baroda Potteries Ltd., Baroda, have been established with an authorised capital of Rs. 25 lakhs, for the manufacture of crockery, fire bricks required by mills and cheap glazed pottery, white ware, sanitary fittings etc. Their construction work has not yet been complete.

272. GLASS INDUSTRY — The Alembic Glass Industries Ltd., Baroda, produced about 1,60,000 glass bottles per month. They are working in three shifts and intend to instal fully automatic modern machines likely to arrive from U. S. A. shortly.

The Baroda Crystal Glass Works Ltd., Baroda, manufacture all types of glass articles like bottles, chimneys, globes, tumblers etc.

273. ENGINEERING — Messrs. Jyoti Ltd. Baroda manufacture different types of machines like centrifugal pumps, chemical plants, electric motors etc.

The Vasant Engineering Ltd., Baroda, manufacture red textile auxiliaries, electric fans, iron lathes etc.

The Sayaji Iron & Eng. Co. Ltd. carried out casting and foundry work.

274. OIL INDUSTRIES — Messrs. Ashwin Industries Ltd., and the Lily Oil Industries Ltd. manufacture mainly refined oils and vegetable ghee. Land acquisition proceedings were made for another vegetable plant at Rakhial in the Mehsana district. The construction work of the factory is in progress.

275. FLOUR MILLS — Dansidhar Flour Mills Ltd., Baroda, installed their plants for rava-menda etc. near Baroda station. Construction of a similar factory at Meh-sana is started by Ramkrishna Flour Mills.

Cottage Industries

276. COTTAGE INDUSTRIES — For the development of cottage industries in the State, Government maintain the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institution, Baroda, and a large number of training classes in the villages where scholarships are given to students. Government also gave grants-in-aid to private institutions, which promote the development of cottage industries and loans for starting them.

277. DIAMOND JUBILEE COTTAGE INDUSTRIES INSTITUTE — The institute was established in 1936 to co-ordinate and further the efforts of the Government to introduce Cottage industries in the State. The institute is intended to encourage industries which can be taken up,

- (i) as whole-time occupations by men with small capital, belonging to the middle or artisan classes; or
- (ii) as part-time subsidiary occupations by agriculturists.

During the year, there were 42 students in the Institute, 9 learning calico printing, 5 lacquerwork, 8 leatherwork, 9 metalwork, 3 brass stool and wood carving and 8 tailoring work. They prepared articles worth Rs. 4,870. The total value of their sale amounted to Rs. 6,343.

278. CALICO PRINTING CLASS FOR WOMEN — The assistance of the Calico Printing demonstrator to the Shri Chimmabai Industrial Home for women in Baroda, for training middle and backward class women in Dyeing and Calico Printing, was continued during the year. Scholarships amounting to Rs. 658-11-1 were awarded to the students under training. About 13 women students received training in the class. 10 students of villages received preliminary training in dyeing and printing. Help of a woman printer to the institute was also continued.

279. SALES DEPOT — The sales depot at the Institute provided marketing facilities by stocking and selling articles of cottage industries, prepared in the class of the Institute and the demonstration classes of the department working outside Baroda, and by exhibiting curios prepared by the artisans of the State which were sold without charging anything to the artisans. The sales effected in the sales depot during the year amounted to Rs. 6,967.

Demonstration in Villages

280. **HANDLOOM WEAVING DEMONSTRATION** — Demonstration classes in handloom weaving were held at Nandasana, Urnej, Unjha and Keriachad. Help of a weaving demonstrator given to the Ropa centre of the Karjan Khadi Karyalaya was continued during the year under report. The total number of persons trained at the different centres was 72 as against 88 in the previous year. They were taught improved methods in sizing, weaving and in new designs.

281. **DEMONSTRATION IN CARDING AND SPINNING** — Demonstration classes in Carding and Spinning were only held at Devli in the Kodinar taluka and propaganda was also made by the demonstrators in charge in the surrounding villages. About 30 persons took complete advantage of the class and spinning wheels. Charkhas were not only introduced but some of the implements were repaired by the demonstrator. As a result of the propaganda at Devli and the surrounding villages, 159 families in the Kodinar taluka have taken to spinning in their spare time. The work done by them amounted to Rs. 2,800.

282. **CALICO PRINTING CLASS WORKING OUTSIDE BARODA** — The Calico Printing class at Petlad was shifted to Amreli at the request of the Amreli weavers and the Mahila Vikas Mandir, Amreli, on 16-5-46; the total number of persons who took advantage of the class was about 53 as against 70 during the previous year. The class arranged a very nice show at the annual gathering of 'Rukminibai Girls High School', Petlad.

283. **TANNING DEMONSTRATIONS** — Improved methods in bark tanning were demonstrated to the chamars and village tanners of Patan, Sundhia, Umata and Dabhoda. About 36 persons were trained in the improved methods of tanning.

284. **LEATHER WORKING CLASS OUTSIDE BARODA** — The leather working class which was working at Kalol in the Mehsana district in the beginning of the year, having finished its mission at that place was shifted to Dangarwa and later on to Langhnaj during the year. About 10 persons were trained and articles worth Rs. 960 were prepared.

285. **ERI SILK DEMONSTRATION CLASS** — Out of the two classes continued to run at Devli in the Kodinar taluka and Gadat in the Gandevi taluka, the Devli class was stopped. About 48 persons were trained at the Gadat demonstration centre and propaganda was specially made by the demonstrator in charge at Amreli, Keriachad, Chalala and Tarawada in the Amreli district. 6 broods of eri worms were reared which produced 8,324 cocoons weighing 180 tolas. Owing to the stoppage of the Devli centre, it was found difficult to secure eri eggs in the hot season and the production was ultimately

very low. Only spinning was, however, continued and 260 tolas of silk yarn was spun out, of which about 160 tolas of yarn was produced from the cocoons reared by Her Highness the Maharani Shantakvibai Saheb.

286. **EXHIBITION** — The department of Industries and Labour celebrated His Highness the Maharaja Saheb's birthday by organising an Arts and Industries exhibition on the Kalabhavan ground. Many large and small scale industries took part in it. The opening ceremony of the exhibition was performed at the gracious hands of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb. The exhibition was visited by the Royal family and Royal guests also. It received an unexpected patronisation from the citizens of Baroda and had to be extended for some days.

The Cottage Industries Institute also took part with all its different groups. A shield was specially awarded to the Institute by the Exhibition Committee for its good work.

Government Aid to Cottage Industries

287. **GRANTS IN AID** — Spinning and weaving implements such as spinning wheels and different types of handlooms worth Rs. 1,662 were given to the weavers and farmers of the State and school boys at Gandevi through the institutions and demonstration centres of the department at half the cost.

288. **LOANS FREE OF INTEREST TO THE COTTAGE WORKERS** — Loans amounting to Rs. 50,000 were granted to chamars weavers and other artisans of the State as against Rs. 49,905 in the previous year. These loans are given free of interest and are recovered by small monthly instalments. Instalments amounting to Rs. 35,820 were recovered and Rs. 85,405 were outstanding at the end of the year.

289. **BARODA ARTS AND CRAFTS** — With a view to providing higher publicity and better marketing to the cottage industries in the State, the Government have sanctioned a scheme involving an initial expenditure of more than Rs. 50,000 for opening another sales depot to be styled as "Baroda Arts & Crafts". It is decided to establish the new depot in an up-to-date premises which will be erected just opposite the Baroda station. A committee with Lady Mitter as president and the Director of Industries as Secretary will supervise the work of the Emporium. The "Baroda Arts & Crafts" when fully established will no doubt add an attractive feature in the city of Baroda.

Industries Board

290. **INDUSTRIES BOARD** — To provide technical information regarding the possibility of starting industries in the State and to assist industrialists with advice on technical matters, the Government

created an Industries Board, consisting of four sections, namely, mechanical, agricultural, chemical and general. Government officers and gentlemen from the public are appointed on these sections which together constitute the Board.

During the year, the Industries Board arranged for the investigations of (1) the Tannin matter of the fruit of *Zizyphus Xylophyrus* and (2) *Plantago Ovata*, Forsk *Isphagula* for its mucilage, and awarded grants for the manufacture of sodium hydrosulphite and for research work on Amreli wool.

Factories

291. **FACTORY INSPECTION** — The number of factories under the Factories Act (those employing 20 or more workers) during the year was 190 as against 178 in the previous year. Out of these, 178 were in actual operation as against 168 in the previous year — 84 perennial and 94 seasonal. Out of the perennial factories, 4 were inspected once, and 80 more than once. Of the 94 seasonal factories that worked this season, 79 were inspected once and 15 could not be visited as they worked only for a short time. The sanitation and other arrangements were generally satisfactory.

292. **BOILERS ACT** — The number of boilers on the register was 673 as against 657 in the previous year.

293. **ACCIDENTS** — The total number of accidents during the year was 473 as against 403 in the previous year. Of these, 409 were minor, 58 serious and 6 fatal.

294. **NIGHT SHIFT** — Out of 84 perennial working factories, 31 worked on night shift almost throughout the year as against 29 in the previous year. A number of seasonal factories worked on night shift during some part of the season.

295. **STRIKES** — Strikes occurred during the year in most of the textile mills in the State.

296. **PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE FACTORIES ACT** — Prosecutions were instituted against one factory owner for breach of Factory regulations and he was fined. Out of 8 pending cases, 4 were punished and 4 cases had to be withdrawn for technical reasons. 20 warnings were given to various factory managers for breaches of factory Regulations.

Labour

297. **GENERAL** :— The policy of His Highness' Government is

Firstly to maintain harmonious relations between the employers and the employed;

Secondly to organise labour welfare activities like co-operative societies, reading rooms, libraries, canteens, dispensaries, housing, creches, &c. for the benefit of labour with the help of employers ;

Thirdly when differences arise between employers and labour, to study causes thereof and try to bring about amicable adjustments; and

Fourthly to encourage the growth of healthy trade unions.

298. **TRADE UNIONS** — The number of trade unions in the cotton textile industry, registered under the Baroda Trade Unions Act, 1938, increased from 5 to 6 as one new trade union, namely "The Majur Mahajan Mandal, Navsari" was registered during the year under report. The Baroda Union has 2,378 members, the Petlad Union 2,715, the Kalol Union 3,924, the Kadi Union 1,105, the Sidhpur Union 2,011 and the Navsari Union 500. The membership of these unions formed 49 per cent of the total number employed in the cotton textile industry as against 31.2 per cent in the preceding year.

299. **LABOUR DISPUTES** — There was a dispute regarding dearness allowance in the mills at Baroda, Kadi, Kalol, Petlad, Navsari and Billimora. The millowners and the labour unions referred the dispute to an arbitration appointed among themselves and thus got the dispute settled. The arbitrators decided to give 90 per cent of the dearness allowance given in Ahmedabad every month (instead of 75 per cent paid before).

Three other disputes which could not be settled even by the conciliatory efforts of the department were referred to arbitrators appointed by the Government and were settled except one, by a compromise before the arbitrators.

There were also some miscellaneous disputes which were amicably settled.

300. **ADULT EDUCATION** — Two mills and three labour unions conducted adult education classes; however most of the adults have taken primary education as it is free and compulsory in the whole of the State since 1906.

301. **CANTEENS** — Canteens have been organised in 24 factories as against 19 in the previous year. They are run on non-profit basis. The department's efforts to have canteens started in all the larger factories continued.

302. **GAMES AND LIBRARIES** — 8 managements of factories made arrangements for indoor and outdoor games. 7 managements of factories and 4 labour unions maintained libraries and reading rooms for workers.

303. HOUSING OF WORKERS — The Government render all possible help to prospective employers desirous of providing housing for their workers, in acquisition of necessary land etc. The Government earmarked labour area in some industrially important towns. They also encourage Labourers' Co-operative Housing Societies and render necessary help in acquisition of land, by advancing loans etc.

A housing society of the workers at Kalol mills was organised and building site acquired for them by the Government, but due to abnormal rise in prices of building materials the completion of the scheme had to be postponed till favourable prices prevailed in the markets.

304. GRAIN SHOPS — All the large industrial concerns in the State run grain shops for their employees, at which grain is supplied at cost price, or controlled rates, or even at rates below the cost price.

305. CRECHES FOR CHILDREN — Most of the textile mills wherein more female workers were employed made provision for creches. 8 of them were in charge of nurses for the children of women employees and 3 mills supplied milk free to the children.

306. MEDICAL RELIEF — In all the factories, provision for first aid was made. 27 large factories in the State have their own dispensaries in the factory premises which provided free medical aid to the labourers. Serious cases were generally treated in Government hospitals. The Tata Chemicals are building a big hospital at Mithapur. The building is nearly complete and steps are being taken by them to furnish and equip the same.

307. CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES — The present prosperity of the factory worker for the first time offers him an opportunity to make a substantial saving to tide over critical times of depression. To capitalise this opportunity for its future welfare, special efforts have been made by the Government to start workmen's co-operative credit and thrift societies. The Assistant Director of Labour was appointed a Special Registrar and by the end of the year, 24 societies were organised with a membership of 18,961. The total savings amounted to Rs. 22,90,607 by the end of the year under report.

308. PAYMENT OF WAGES ACT — 84 complaints were received during the year as against 71 during the preceding year, for dismissals, outstanding wages and bonus &c. Out of these, 16 were decided in favour of labour, 26 against them, while 11 were amicably settled or were untenable.

309. WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION ACT — The administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act continued to be in the hands of the District Magistrates who are ex-officio Commissioners under the Act.

Compensation amounting to Rs. 32,962 was paid to workers for accidents in the factories in the State as against Rs. 24,693 in the previous year.

310. **MATERNITY BENEFIT ACT** — The total amount of maternity benefit paid during the year to women operatives was Rs. 4,603 as against Rs. 3,818 in the previous year.

311. **LABOUR COMMITTEES** — The Director attended as State representative the Seventh Indian Labour Conference held at New Delhi on the 27th and 28th November 1945. The Assistant Director of Labour attended the Seventh meeting of the Standing Labour Committee held at New Delhi on the 28th August 1945.

312. **TRAINING OF LABOUR OFFICERS** — Arrangements were made to train three officers in the Short Term Social Work Course of the Calcutta University; two officers already completed the course, while one was under training.

Further arrangements were made to depute two officers to the United Kingdom for training of Labour Officers, according to the Government of India, Labour department's scheme.

313. **EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE** — The question of opening an employment exchange is under consideration of the Government.

314. **LABOUR LEGISLATION** — The Indian Industrial Statistics Act, 1942, has been *mutatis mutandis* applied in the State.

The bill to amend the State Factories Act, 1940, reducing the hours of work to 8 per day in non-seasonal and 9 per day in seasonal ones was passed in the budget session of the Dhara Sabha held in July 1946.

CHAPTER XX

STATISTICS AND INSURANCE

I. Commercial intelligence and statistics

315. RETURNS AND STATEMENTS — The following returns and statements were compiled by the departments and supplied to the authorities concerned :—

S. No.	Particulars				Period
1	Consumption of cotton bales	...	...	...	Monthly
2	Returns of joint stock companies	...	...	...	do
3	Returns of foreign sea-borne trade	...	...	...	do
4	Returns of cotton mills	...	...	...	Annual
5	Returns of woollen mills	...	...	...	do
6	Returns of joint stock companies	...	...	...	do
7	Returns of foreign joint stock companies	...	...	...	do
8	Returns of minerals	...	...	...	do
9	Returns of large industrial establishments	...	...	...	do
10	Returns of stock of cotton held by the trade centres in the State on the 31st August 1945.				do
11	Statistical abstract	...	...	...	1944-45

316. INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS ACT — Application of the Industrial Statistics Act, 1942 of British India was sanctioned during the year.

II. Joint Stock Companies

317. REGISTRATION OF COMPANIES — Forty-two new companies were registered in the State during the year. There were in all 386 companies on the register—214 public and 172 private companies at the end of the year. Of these, 22 were in liquidation. Of the 386 companies working in the State, 287 were companies incorporated in the State and the remaining 99 were foreign companies. Of the indigenous companies, 29 were cotton mills including 4 in liquidation, 10 companies for supplying electricity, 27 for chemical and other allied trades, 5 for insurance business, 51 agency companies and the remaining were other miscellaneous companies. Of the 99 foreign companies, 70 were insurance companies.

318. CLASSIFICATION OF NEW COMPANIES — Forty-two new companies were registered during the year. These may be classified as follows:—

	State	Foreign	Total
I. Banking, Loan and Insurance			
Life, fire and marine insurance		1	1
II. Trade and Transport,			
Motor-traction, dealing and manufacturing ...	1	1	2
III. Trade and manufacturing			
Printing and Stationery	5	1	6
Chemicals and allied trades... ..	4	...	4
Clay, stones, cement etc.	3	...	3
Agency	5	...	5
Tobacco (cigarette)	1	...	1
Others	9	1	10
IV. Mills and Presses :—			
Cotton mills	1	...	1
Mills for wool, silk and hamp	1	...	1
Saw mills	1	...	1
Oil mills	1	...	1
V. Tea and other planting companies	1	...	1
VI. Mining and Quarrying	1	...	1
VII. Breweries and Distilleries	2	...	2
VIII. Hotels, theatres and entertainments	2	...	2
	38	4	42

319. CONTROL OF CAPITAL ISSUES — Government control on the issue of capital continued in force in the State during the year. Permissions were given for issue of capital in the State in 13 cases. Of these, 9 were for first issue and 4 for further issue of capital.

320. CAPITAL OF COMPANIES — The paid-up capital of companies incorporated in the State increased by Rs. 413 lakhs and of the companies other than insurance companies incorporated outside the State by Rs. 270 lakhs. This increase was due to registration of new companies or increase of capital by the existing companies. The following table shows the authorised, subscribed and paid-up capital:

of companies incorporated in and outside the State excluding insurance companies incorporated elsewhere and working in the State:-

(Figures in lakhs of Rs.)

Year	Number of companies on the register	Capital		Paid-up Companies incorporated		
		Authorised	Subscribed	In the State	Outside the State	Total
1945-46	315	7,76,173	3,41,015	1,01,976	1,83,996	2,85,972
1944-45	275	5,95,545	2,48,033	60,675	1,57,042	2,17,721
Increase.	+41	+1,78,045	+92,982	+41,298	+23,953	+68,251

321. **BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES** — There were 295 societies on the register under the Benevolent Societies Registration Act in the beginning of the year and 58 new societies were registered during the year making a total of 353. Of these, 62 were societies for promoting education, 111 for libraries, 14 for sanitation and medical relief, 32 merchants associations, 53 gymnasiums and the remaining for other miscellaneous purposes. Out of 353 societies, 230 were in the Baroda, 64 in the Mehsana, 33 in the Navsari and 26 in the Amreli districts.

322. **CERTIFIED AUDITORS** — There were 71 certified auditors on the register at the beginning of the year and 6 new auditors were enrolled during the year.

323. **PARTNERSHIP FIRMS** — The number of partnership firms on the register under the Partnership Act was 1024 at the beginning of the year to which 151 new firms were added during the year, making a total of 1175. Of these, 13 were dissolved during the year leaving 1162 firms on the register at the end of the year.

III. Insurance

324. **INSURANCE COMPANIES** — There were 79 insurance companies on the register under the Insurance Act, 1938, as applied to the State at the beginning of the year and 9 new insurance companies were registered during the year making a total of 88 insurance companies on the register at the end of the year. Out of 88 insurance companies, 83 were insurance companies incorporated outside the State and the remaining 5 were companies incorporated in the State. Besides these, there were 4 foreign provident insurance societies working in the State.

During the year, 1,932 licences were issued under the insurance Act, 1938, as applied to the State for canvassing insurance business in the State as against 1,589 in the previous year.

One actuary's certificate was issued during the year as against 2 in the previous year.

325. **WAR RISKS INSURANCE** — The War Risks (Factories and Goods) Insurance Ordinances remained in force during the year. Sections 3, 5 and 6 of the War Risks (Factories) Insurance Ordinance and section 7 of the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Ordinance were repealed during the year.

326. **BANKING COMPANIES** — During the year, no permission was granted to open branches in the State either by the existing banks or any new bank. Thus there were five foreign banks working in the State.

Insurance of State servants

327. **WORKING OF THE INSURANCE SCHEME** — Compulsory Insurance Scheme for the State servants continued to work well.

Volume of insurance business

(a) During the year, 1,451 new proposals for insurance were received, 1,299 were accepted; 117 were rejected and 37 were postponed. The total number of proposals accepted upto the end of the year was 7,773, for which the annual premium amounted to Rs. 1,74,521.

(b) In 19 cases, claims due to death amounting to Rs. 6,584 were settled and paid to the successors of the deceased policy holders and in 9 cases payment orders were passed authorising payment of the sum due to the successors of the deceased policy holders.

(c) In 17 cases, surrender value was paid and in 9 such cases payment orders were passed authorising payment to the parties as they were relieved from the State service.

(d) In one case, payment order was passed for refunding premiums. This is a special case.

(e) The total investment of the Insurance Fund amounted to Rs. 4.39 lakhs by the end of the year under report.

CHAPTER XXI

ELECTRICITY

328. BARODA ELECTRIC SUPPLY — The city electric supply undertaking was maintained in working condition. During the 5 years of the war, great difficulty was experienced in obtaining spare parts, necessary to maintain the power plant at a safe level of efficiency. On the other hand, the development of the city and the rise of new industries during the same period placed an additional load of half a million units or 15 per cent on an overburdened system.

Under the circumstances, as a precaution against a serious breakdown of the supply, two measures were taken :

- (i) new connections were severely restricted;
- (ii) electric current was shut off during certain hours of the day and night.

The ultimate electrical scheme for Baroda has been approved. The government have decided to join the grid system of electric supply envisaged by the Government of Bombay and with that object negotiations between the two governments are in progress.

The output of energy increased to 4.82 million units. The demand amounted to 3.94 million units as against 3.66 million units in the preceding year. Of these, 59 per cent were used for domestic and commercial purposes, 32 per cent for industrial and 9 per cent for pumps, gardens and municipal sewage station. The number of consumers was 5272 and the consumption per head was 26 units per year.

The working expenses of the city supply undertaking amounted to Rs. 4.10 lakhs as against Rs. 4.03 in the preceding year. The cost per unit generated was 1.3 annas and per unit sold 1.6 annas.

The total revenue amounted to Rs. 8.23 lakhs as against Rs. 7.70 lakhs in the preceding year and the working expenses to Rs. 4.10 lakhs. The surplus, after allowing Rs. 0.98 lakh for depreciation represents a net profit of 10.6 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 29.74 lakhs. After deducting Rs. 1.18 lakhs for government first charge at 4 per cent, the surplus transferred to the reserve fund amounted to Rs. 1.83 lakh. The depreciation and reserve funds at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 39.74 lakhs — Rs. 13.26 and Rs. 26.48 lakhs respectively.

329. **PETLAD ELECTRIC SUPPLY** — The Petlad electric supply undertaking was maintained in a satisfactory working condition. The number of units generated was 0.24 million and the number of units sold 0.21 million. Of these, 48 per cent were for domestic purposes, 34 per cent for industrial and 18 per cent for street lighting and agricultural purposes. The number of consumers increased during the year from 588 to 592 and the annual consumption per head was 8.87 units. The cost per unit generated was 2.8 as. and of units sold 3.2 as.

The revenue amounted to Rs. 0.52 lakh, and the working expenses to Rs. 0.44 lakh, leaving a gross surplus of Rs. 0.08 lakh. After deducting the depreciation of Rs. 6,762, the depreciation and reserve fund at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 33,538 and Rs. 10,110 respectively.

330. **GANDEVI ELECTRIC SUPPLY** — The power house at Gandevi supplies power to the Manekpura and Umra pumping stations. The output was 0.2 million units and the consumption 0.19 million units. Of these, 36 per cent were for domestic and commercial purposes, 57 per cent for agricultural and 7 per cent for industrial. The number of consumers was 362, the consumption per head 22.38 units, the cost of a unit generated 2.1 as. and of unit sold 2.4 as.

The revenue amounted to Rs. 0.31 lakh and the working expenses to Rs. 0.32 lakh. The depreciation and reserve fund at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 2,231 and Rs. 9,605 respectively.

331. **OKHA ELECTRIC SUPPLY** — The power house at Okha is under the harbour board. It supplied electricity to the port workshop and other industrial concerns and for lighting. The output was 2,22,743 units, of which 26,937 units were sold for lighting and 48,986 units for industries.

332. **VIJAPUR TUBE WELL PROJECT** — The machinery has been received and the erection of the power house was in progress during the year. The running of over head high tension lines has also begun.

Besides these government undertakings, there were ten electric supply concerns operating in the State.

Broadcasting and Telephones

333. **GENERAL** — The department of Broadcasting and Telephones has been formed in the year under report and the work of telephones and broadcasting, which was previously done by the Electric department, is entrusted to the Director of Broadcasting and Telephones.

334. **TELEPHONES** — There are automatic telephones in Baroda, Navsari, Petlad, Dabhoi, Kalol, Mehsana and Billimora and public call

offices in Bhilupur and Gandevi. Schemes to extend the system to important trade centres of the State were postponed, as instruments and materials were not available.

In the Baroda city, the work of laying additional cables was started and about 15 miles of cables were laid. The development programme was carried out in the department: Mehsana-Sidhpur junction line was completed, a public call office was started at Unjha and the work of Kadi Kalol line was completed. The income from telephone and broadcasting was satisfactory. The following table gives the financial results :-

System		Gross earnings	Working expenses	Depreciation	Net profit	Percentage of profit
Baroda City	...	1'36	0'52	0'15	0'66	12
Dabhoi-Petlad	...	0'23	0'11	0'04	0'08	6
Kalol-Mehsana	...	0'42	0'13	0'03	0'26	18'2
Navsari-Billimora	...	0'60	0'10	0'05	0'45	46'4

335. BROADCASTING—Broadcasting transmitter and studio equipments were received in April 1946 and the works in this connection were taken on hand.

The number of radio licences decreased from 2,510 in the previous year to 1,923. The total income realised was Rs. 0'21 lakh against Rs. 0'22 lakh in the previous year. The Radio Reserve Fund amounted to Rs. 105 lakhs.

CHAPTER XXII

FISHERIES

336. **THE STATE FISHERIES** — There are four maritime areas of the State in which fish industry exists, and is being developed : the Navsari and Kodinar sea coasts, the Mahi estuary in the Baroda district, and Beyt in the gulf of Cutch. From the trade data and other statistics collected, it is estimated that the annual production of fish at present is over 5,500 tons — 5,000 from marine fisheries and 500 from estuarine. The Government's efforts to develop these consists mainly of (i) introducing improved methods of catching, preserving and marketing, (ii) starting new fish industries, such as shark liver oil and fish manure industries, (iii) increasing and regulating the supply by erecting fish farms and hatcheries. Besides this, systematic surveys of the numerous rivers and tanks of the State are being undertaken and those found suitable are stocked with imported food fish of various kinds.

337. **SURVEYS AND STATISTICS** — Surveys and collection of biological specimens and statistical data were continued. A biological survey of the Kathiawar territories in collaboration with the biological department of Baroda College, with emphasis on possibilities of industrial development, has been sanctioned.

338. **PEARL AND CONCH FISHERIES** — The window pane oyster pearl fisheries and the right to collect shanks from the Okha seas have been leased to the Baroda Biological Industries Ltd., for 5 years for a rental of Rs. 4,000 a year. The company, however, has not been able to start work and has sub-let the farm for two years.

339. **INDUSTRIAL EXPERIMENTS AND RESEARCH** — Industrial experiments and demonstrations were continued at Madhwad, Vanchi and Kotda. Demonstrations were given in fish manure, fish conservancy and oil extraction. Prawn meal dust and oyster grift were successfully prepared and marketed. Smoking, picking and curing according to a new recipe was done at Kotda with much success.

The study of pests attacking cured fish was continued. The dermesties vulpinus, beetles of the genus necrobia, two mites and an aphid were found most destructive to cured fish, dried Bombay duck and prawns. A simple system of storing in earthen vessels kept about 2 ft. above the ground is effective as the insects cannot fly.

340. **SHARK LIVER OIL** — The scheme for the development of shark liver oil industry at Okha, Madhwad and other fishermen's villages was continued. The extraction and filtration stations at

Madhwad and the refining and medicating station at Okha did useful work, through demonstrations and propaganda, in educating the fishermen to the commercial value of the liver oil and the scientific methods of extraction.

Fishing and collection of livers is no longer done directly by the department, but livers and oil are purchased from fishermen. The difficulty of obtaining these from fishermen—an indication that local fishermen are taking up shark liver oil extraction as an industry—curtailed the output of the government centres.

During the year, the government centres produced 605 lbs. and the income from the sale of oil and its products was Rs. 1,229, as against an expenditure of Rs. 1,546.

The department is now concentrating on research on the oil and its bye-products which is being conducted at the Institute of Technology, Baroda.

341. FRESH WATER FISHERIES — The possibilities of increasing the food supply of stocking rivers and irrigation tanks with rapidly multiplying fishes are being explored and during the year the *Megalops* fry imported from Bombay were stocked in Haripura, Karichia, Ajwa, Timbi and Vadadla tanks.

The Dhadhar river was surveyed in 1942–43 and a scheme for the establishment of the fresh water prawn farm at Nedra was approved in the following year. But owing to the difficulty in obtaining building materials, no further progress could be made.

An investigation of importance, because of the wide prevalence of the nuisance in Gujarat, was the inquiry into the weed nuisance in Dabhoi tank. All attempts to eradicate weeds by chemicals or by manual labour have proved fruitless. The results of the investigations carried out by the department indicate, that a possible remedy may be found in stocking the tank with fish of the *labeo*, *catla*, *cirrhhina* and *etroplus* kinds and arrangements have accordingly been made.

342. SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES — Efforts to organise the fishermen of the State, (the Machees of Navsari area, the Bhoeyes of Baroda, the Machiaras of Kodinar and the Badelas of Beyt) through co-operative society and fishermen's colonies were continued, but did not meet with marked success. The colonisation scheme at Kotdah, where land has been bought and facilities are offered to induce fishermen to settle and develop a fish industry, has not tempted any families to make permanent settlements. Attempts to revive the co-operative movement among the Machees of Navsari have not materialised; the Machiaras of Kodinar, however, seem to be more responsive and efforts are being continued among them.

The department made a survey of the yarn, sail cloth, fishing hooks etc. required by the fishermen and arrangements were made through the Government of India to supply these at a reasonable price.

CHAPTER XXIII

FORESTS

343. **FORESTS** — The forests of the State cover 713 square miles. They fall into two distinct groups: (i) the mixed deciduous teak forests of the Navsari district situated in a belt of heavy rainfall; these cover 561 square miles or 80 per cent of the forest area; and (ii) the fuel and grazing forests of the drier districts of Baroda, Mehsana, Amreli and Okhamandal. These forests are of immense value both in preventing soil erosion and covering the catchment areas of local natural water sources and in producing valuable timber.

A cautious policy directed towards conserving and exploiting the forests has been adopted. Plans for silviculture, research, management of forests and utilisation of their produce have been carefully revised and modified according to the recommendations of the forest expert engaged from the Government of Bombay in 1938-39.

A. Silviculture

344. **SYSTEMS** — In the timber forests of the Navsari district, the system of selection-cum-improvement with fixed girth limits for the main species has been introduced in place of the coppice-with-standards worked on a forty year rotation. Girth limit for teak in the main felling has been provisionally fixed at 34 inches.

The fuel forests were worked under the simple coppice system, the trees being so cut as to stimulate regeneration in the form of coppice shoots. The scrub forests of Sankheda, however, were worked under "modified clear fellings" with a rotation of thirty years.

345. **REGENERATION** — During the year under report, over 22,000 lbs. of seeds of principle species of timber and grass were collected, and were supplied to soil conservation officers and the Deputy Director of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry. It was also supplied to the Sihore State.

Natural regeneration from fallen seeds was supplemented by artificial sowing under the rab method. 152 bighas were sown under this method. Besides this, stump planting of teak and other important species was done in spaces intervening between the rabs and outside rabs in open forest.

Transplantation of over 72,000 trees of Sag, Harda etc., was done in the forests of Sadadwel, Vijapur, Attarsumba, Gir and Okha from the temporary nurseries.

Afforestation work was continued in Okhamandal, Gir and Attarsumba forests, and also in the khari lands of Navsari and Palsana talukas. Hardly local species were tried in these parts.

At Hirpura in Vijapur Taluka, 7,550 of additional top ridges have been constructed and the earth work of bunds and dams has been strengthened by planting on them grass and tree-plants. Isolated high grounds in the ravine areas have been reclaimed by leveling and bunding. The cost of work at Hirpura was Rs. 6,148.

346. RESEARCH — Plots have been laid at different places in the forest areas to determine the increase in girth and height of the principal species.

Seeds of sandal, tung (*aleurites fordii*, and *aleurites montana*) were planted in several forests. The sandal plants were progressing well but the *aleurites* germination was poor. Trials for the cultivation of pyrethrum and derris ferruginea, two exotic insecticide-yielding plants, first laid in 1940, were successfully continued. They yield about 2 per cent of rotenone.

B. Utilisation

347. MAJOR FOREST PRODUCE — Timber market conditions showed a marked improvement. But the income from coupe auction was comparatively less owing to the probability of introduction of timber Price Control order at the time of auction. Total realisation from this source amounted to Rs. 11,75,136 as against Rs. 11,35,981 in the preceding year. The following table gives the details of the working of the year:—

Year	Number of coupes	Total area exploited in bighas	Total realisation Rs.	Average realisation per bigha	Timber extracted in cubic feet	Fuel extracted in cubic feet
1945-46	124	22,353	11,75,136	52-9-3	7,58,366	10,58,040
1944-45	93	16,026	11,35,981	70-14-1	7,22,506	16,40,066

The new measure of allowing the contractors an option to fix a limit of their business in the coupe tenders has continued to produce a distinct increase in coupe prices.

There is an increase in timber out-turn as some of the coupes, which were auctioned last year but were kept standing owing to transport difficulties, were exploited this year. Also the higher market prices have resulted in more intensive exploitation of all kinds of

woods. In addition, Kalam and Haldwan were extracted from the Navsari district in large quantities. Kakad, madad and saman also brought in an income of Rs. 14,400.

A general hardship for obtaining Railway waggons for timber and fire-wood transport has been experienced during this year so that much of the extracted timber and fire-wood by the contractors is held up in station depots.

The total area exploited was 22,353 bighas as against 16,026 bighas in the preceding year, but the timber extracted was 7,58,000 cu. ft. as against 7,22,000 cu. ft., and the fuel 10,58,000 cu. ft. as against 16,40,000 cu. ft. in the preceding year. The average realisation per bigha declined from Rs. 70-14-0 to Rs. 52-9-3.

348. MINOR FOREST PRODUCE — The minor forest products are exploited on a system of farming and license. The total value of such produce sold was Rs. 2.07 lakhs as compared with Rs. 2.03 lakhs in the preceding year.

Grazing fees amounted to Rs. 38,138 as against Rs. 39,300 in the preceding year; bamboos brought Rs. 49,500 as against Rs. 56,500; stone from Songir quarries Rs. 9,500 as against Rs. 6,800; timru leaves Rs. 14,300 as against Rs. 14,000 and miscellaneous revenue Rs. 88,900 as against Rs. 79,500.

349. FOREST INDUSTRIES — A lease for the development of Katha (catechu), lac and timru leaves industries in these forests has been granted.

350. MISCELLANEOUS — As a precaution against fodder famine in the Amreli district and Okhamandal, which periodically suffer from acute shortage of rain, the government have decided to store 10,00,000 lbs. of grass in Amreli. Although large quantities of grass were destroyed by forest fires during the year, 8,93,000 lbs. were stored in the Gir ranges.

The people of the Navsari forest areas are allowed to take from the forests, free of cost, building materials for huts. During the year, materials worth Rs. 0.43 lakh were taken.

351. FOREST PLANTATIONS BY TAUNGYA SYSTEMS — Under this system, grain crops are allowed to be grown in between the lines of forest plants. So by this combined agriculture forest method, the cultivator gets free lands for growing crops and the Government get plantations at no cost, as sowings and tending of the tree plants is obligatory on the cultivator and the "Grow more food Campaign" is also encouraged. In all, 560 bighas had been taken up by such cultivators. 7,300 teak plants in Vankal range and 2,608 in Sadadwel range have been planted this year by the cultivators.

C. Forest Administration

352. **FOREST CESS** — The income from forest cess is earmarked for construction of forest roads. It amounted to Rs. 1.44 lakhs as against Rs. 1.16 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 0.44 lakh as against Rs. 0.49 lakh, and the balance of forest cess at the end of the year was Rs. 3.50 lakhs.

353. **ROADS AND BUILDINGS** — Serious difficulty was experienced in obtaining labour for constructing roads etc., with the result that the 5 years programme for a complete system of forest roads had to be suspended. During the year, only 19 miles of fair weather roads were completed and 27 miles were under construction.

The maintenance of roads costed Rs. 4,300 and of buildings and wells Rs. 3,600 during the year.

354. **OFFENCES** — The number of forest offences was 169 as against 203 in the preceding year. This shows a decrease of 16.8 per cent.

355. **FIRES** — The area damaged or destroyed by fire was 36,468 bighas as against 22,100 bighas in the previous year. It was natural that with the increased exploitation of forests, specially for fire wood and minor products and consequent movement of people and labourers, there should be an increase in the number of fires. However, as proper precautions were taken, the damage was trivial, estimated at no more than Rs. 350. The expenditure on fire protection was Rs. 8,900.

356. **PROTECTION AGAINST CATTLE** — The system adopted on the recommendation of the forest expert, continued during the year and felled coupes were thrown open to grazing in the sixth year instead of the tenth after felling. The closure is limited to areas which after felling have been put under regeneration and those with young plantations; hence only 10.7 per cent of the forest area was closed to grazing.

During the year, 88,600 animals grazed as against 94,200 in the previous year. The incidence of grazing in the reserved forests was 8.5 bighas per animal during the year, as against 7.3 bighas in the previous year. The revenue realised under this head was Rs. 36,700.

357. **DESTRUCTION OF VEGETABLE PESTS** — Climbers were destroyed as usual in 1,10,020 bighas at a cost of Rs. 2,307 as against 1,15,999 bighas at a cost of Rs. 2,513 in the previous year. 1/3rd of the total area with preponderance of climbers and 1/8 of the rest containing light incidence of climbers are cut every year. This work is done departmentally. In addition, coupe contractors cut the climbers in their coupes as per contract agreement rules.

358. **REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE** — The total revenue for the year was Rs. 15.02 lakhs as against Rs. 14.67 lakhs in the preceding year. The total expenditure was Rs. 1.58 lakhs as against Rs. 1.41 lakhs and the net surplus Rs. 13.44 lakhs as against Rs. 13.26 lakhs.

CHAPTER XXIV

PUBLIC WORKS

359. GENERAL — During this year, the department had to face the same difficulties as in the previous year. Shortage of supplies, non-availability of materials, difficulties of transportation, inflation in cost of building materials and Postal strike interfered with the activities of the department to a very great extent. Several schemes were to be kept in abeyance till the return of normal times. In spite of these difficulties, the department executed several important works, particularly those of rural and public benefit, a short account of which is given below :—

360. IRRIGATION — The Vijapur Tubewell and Electricity scheme stage "A" originally sanctioned for Rs. 9.64 lakhs in 1939-40 was revised due to subsequent abnormal rise in prices and was sanctioned for Rs. 15.00 lakhs. It is a scheme of irrigation by power pumping from 30 tube wells by motor pumps and includes a 500 K. W. Power station at Vijapur. The power house was put in operation during the year and 18 tube wells were run with electric power. Some more wells were run with oil engines.

A few more wells are yet being done to complete the scheme. The total expenditure on the scheme amounted to Rs. 13.33 lakhs, of which Rs. 1.56 lakhs was during the year under report.

1,741 bighas of food and other crops as against 1,394 bighas in the previous year were irrigated. The expenditure on maintenance was Rs. 35,334 and the revenue realised from the irrigation was Rs. 16,939.

361. SABARMATI IRRIGATION PROJECT — The project contemplates damming the Sabarmati river at Ransipur and drawing the water to irrigate the southern areas of Mehsana district. The scheme is ready and has been referred to the Central Waterways Irrigation Navigation Commission for expert opinion.

362. ZANKHARI IRRIGATION PROJECT — The project contemplates irrigation of lands in Vyara and Mehsana talukas of the Navsari district. It is also referred to the Central Waterways Irrigation Commission for expert advice. Both these projects are included in the Post War programme of the department.

363. LIFT IRRIGATION SCHEMES ON THE AMBICA RIVER :—

(a) *Umra Pumping Station* :—The scheme has been sanctioned for Rs. 4,39,000. The works are completed according to present requirements and water is being given for sugar cane. The total area under irrigation during the year under report was 300 bighas, and the revenue realised comes to Rs. 5,700. The expenditure towards maintenance was Rs. 7,180.

(b) *The Manekpur pumping station* :—The total area irrigated on this station during the year under report was 348 bighas. Revenue realised was Rs. 14,002. Expenditure towards maintenance was Rs. 8,399.

364. To assist the grow more food campaign, it was decided to install river pumping station at suitable places for irrigation of food crops. Proposals for a scheme of this type at Jayapura in Waghodia taluka is prepared. It will cost Rs. 72,000 and is expected to irrigate 540 bighas.

365. IRRIGATION TANKS — All the irrigation tanks were properly maintained during the year under report.

366. FIELD DRAINAGE AND KOTARS — To prevent water logging in the agricultural land, new drains are cut every year and old ones are properly maintained. 10 new drains in Baroda district and 2 in Navsari district were completed during the year under report.

The work of building up kotars was carried out at Ranoli, Nandesari, Pavada and Shinor in Baroda district and Timba in Navsari district.

367. SOIL CONSERVATION IN AMRELI DISTRICT — With a view to prevent erosion of soil in the agricultural area of Amreli district by contour bunding, gully plugging etc., preliminary survey is being carried out by special staff appointed at Dhari under the guidance of Executive Engineer, Amreli division. During the year under report, 682 bighas were treated newly and about 662 bighas were rectified and tractor bunding extending to 4,400 bighas was done.

368. TOWN IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES —

(i) *Baroda city* :—The Baroda City is supplied with drinking water from Shri Sayaji Sarovar at Ajwa. The control over the maintenance and distribution system of this water works remained with the City Municipality. The P. W. D. continued to maintain and supervise the head works at Ajwa, Pratappura and filter beds at Nimeta and 30" main outside the municipal limits. The works were maintained in working order at a total cost of Rs. 69,360 during the year.

Drainage:—The Baroda City drainage works including storm water drains were maintained in good order. New drainage lines were laid in Fatehganj, Central Jail, T. B. Sanatorium and Nawabwada.

Baroda flood Control:—This scheme was examined by Mr. Mazumdar of the Central Waterways Irrigations Navigation Commission and further investigations as suggested by him were undertaken. A scheme for constructing a new bridge, to replace the existing bridge as suggested by Sir William Stampe and Mr. Mazumdar for relieving flood condition to some extent was under preparation.

Extensions and Improvements:—The extension and improvement of the town towards Alkapuri and in other directions has been systematically planned.

(ii) *District Towns* :—

Water works:—The following water works schemes were partly or wholly carried out during the year under report:—

- (1) *Paulra Water Supply* :—A scheme for water supply to the town amounting to Rs. 6,53,600 is matured.
- (2) *Dharmaj Water Works* :—This is completed and handed over to the municipality. Due to extension of the town, some additional line of 1,088 ft is laid. The total cost upto date is Rs. 1,21,205.
- (3) *Parekh Water Works* :—The work is in progress. Arrangements are being made for platform and overhead tank, etc.
- (4) *R. C. C. Tank at Sankheda* :—This is completed and handed over to the municipality.
- (5) *Augmenting Water supply to Navsari town* :—The scheme was sanctioned for Rs. 94,000. The whole scheme is completed except providing additional machinery which is to be ordered out. The total expenditure is Rs. 20,488.
- (6) *Amreli Water Works* :—His Highness the Maharaja Sahab has graciously given a gift of Rs. 10 lakhs for water works at Amreli. As wells originally contemplated did not come to anticipation, fresh sources of supply are being investigated.

- (7) *Beyt Water Supply Scheme* — The work of stage "A" is completed. The work of strengthening the bund of Dhineshwar Tank is in progress.
- (8) *Petlad Water Works* — A scheme costing Rs. 9.5 lakhs has been prepared and is under consideration.
- (9) *Kalol Water Works* — Out of 4 tubewells fixed as sources of supply, 2 wells are done and the third one is nearly complete.
- (10) *Vijapur Water Works* — The scheme has been revised on the basis of post war rates and will cost Rs. 3,83,000. A new tubewell for the water works is completed and has proved successful.

Schemes for water works at Kadi, Tilakwada and Dwarka were under consideration during the year.

369. DRAINAGE — Drainage works at the following towns were either in progress or completed during the year under report :—

- (1) *Bhadran Town Drainage* — The scheme is mostly completed. The work of broad irrigation channel is nearing completion.
- (2) *Dharmaj Town Drainage* — All the materials are received except hume pipes.
- (3) *Sojitra Town Drainage* — All the materials are received except hume pipes.
- (4) *Navasari Town Drainage* — The work of main drainage lines has been completed. The house connections are being done as per requisitions from the municipality.
- (5) *Laying drainage line from Darbhanga mills to Tavdi Bunder* — The work is completed except erecting ventilating columns which is in progress.

Drainage schemes for Padra, Karjan and Petlad in Baroda district, and Kalol in Mehsana district were under consideration during the year under report.

- (6) *Extensions* — Town extension scheme has been sanctioned during the year under report for Petlad town only and those for Amreli, Dabhoi, Sankheda, Bhadran and Vyara are submitted to Government. Extension proposals for several other towns are under consideration.

- (7) A Committee consisting of (1) The Suba, Baroda district, (2) The State Architect and Chief Engineer, (3) The Director of Commerce and Industries, (4) The Dabhoi vibhag naib suba, (5) Sheth Jamnadas Chunilal Girdharlal Jinwala and (6) Sheth Govindlal Maneklal Jinwala, is formed to submit a report for the Industrial and Commercial development and town extension of Dabhoi.
- (8) *Recreation grounds* — A ten years' programme for recreation grounds has been approved and the works at Amreli, Dwarka, Kodinar, Kheralu and Kholwad have been taken in hand during the year under report.

370. **ROADS AND BRIDGES** — The following roads and bridges were either completed or were in progress during the year under report:—

- (i) *Mahura Anaval Road* — The work was completed last year. Tree planting is in progress. Some more culverts sanctioned out of savings have been completed during this year.
- (ii) *Masa Kotha Road* — Earth work and cross drainage works have been completed.
- (iii) *Kathor-Kim-Velachha Road* — The work has been completed except tree planting and new road-side wells.
- (iv) *Metalling Vyara Unai Road from Mile No. 12 to 16 and 16 to 20* — These have been included in the Post War Road programme.
- (v) *Songadh Otta Road* — The section consisting of first four miles is completed.
- (vi) *Kamrej Nagod Orna Rundhwada Road* — This has been included in the Post War Road programme.
- (vii) *Bombay Ahmedabad Road* — Out of the total portion of 6,870 ft., a portion of 5,510 ft. was metalled. Estimate for the balance portion is under consideration.
- (viii) *Metalling Padra Dabhasa Road* — No progress has been possible due to war conditions.
- (ix) *Gangadia Vajiria Road in Attached Area* — The earth work is completed, other materials are collected and further work is in progress.

- (x) *Constructing a road on the East side of Kalol Railway Station* — Earthwork is completed. Materials are being collected.
- (xi) *Constructing a Cement Concrete Road, a dwarf wall for protection of Sharmista at Vadnagar, and the Tokar Mewasa Road* are completed.

Bridges

- (i) *Constructing a slab dam causeway on Ambica River near Unai* — High level bridge is proposed at this place now and included in Post War programme.
- (ii) *Protective works round pier Nos. 5 to 10 of Tafti bridge at Kathore* — This is completed.
- (iii) *Submersible bridge on Unchha river between Sankheda and Handed* — No progress could be made due to war conditions.

371. **FOREST ROADS** — The work of constructing forest roads has been undertaken from 1930-31. The total mileage of the programme is 207 miles and $6\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs.

Roads of 107 miles have been completed so far. About 27 miles of roads are in progress. Thus 73 miles and $6\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs are to be arranged for. A portion of 5 miles from Salher to Waghamba has already been completed. Hence only 68 miles and $6\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs actually remain to be arranged for.

All the roads are fair weather earth roads with murrum or sand as available. The maintenance is done by the Forest department.

372. **BUILDINGS** — The following public buildings were completed or work on them was in progress during the year:—

- (i) *Hospitals* — Extensions in the General Hospital at Dwarka, a building for Shri Maharani Chimnabai Maternity and Child Welfare League, 3 bed maternity wards at Nar, dispensaries at Valan, Bhatpur, Singapur, Jamkhadi, Gunesvel and Bhimkatta and a veterinary dispensary at Kalol.
- (ii) *Schools* — Vernacular schools at Chowkhandi, Naswadi, Bakrol, Choranda, Kamana, Padumsa, Khandosan, Denap, Ladol, Kathwada, Navasanghpur, Mangrol, Anti, mixed schools at Kosamba and Chalala, and Science College at Visnagar.

Military Buildings:—Additions and alterations to military lines and barracks of Baroda.

Other public buildings:—Additions and alterations to City Power House, Baroda; works pertaining to Navlakhi and Hirabag Stud Farms; broadcasting studio, police lines, eastern wing of Secretariat; a record room for Mahalkari office, Tilakwada; a rest house at Vyara and a second class chora at Kukas.

373. STATE GARDENS — Besides maintaining efficiently the State Gardens, the following more important works were carried out by the Garden department:—

- (1) About 11,000 plants including road side trees were reared in the Vishrambag nursery and distributed to the various gardens and divisions.
- (2) Area under dry crop at Fatebag was further increased by putting under cultivation more fallow land.
- (3) The paddocks were maintained with good type of grasses.
- (4) All shrubberies and two old unused fountains in the Mankari compound in the Makarpura Garden were removed and lawns and flower beds prepared.
- (5) The wooden bridge leading to Mankari compound from the Makarpura Palace was removed and a culvert of cement concrete etc. constructed with a rock work underneath.
- (6) An old Italian Statute in the Makarpura Garden which was offering no appearance on North side of the kitchen was removed and put in a prominent place.
- (7) A new poultry house at Makarpura is under construction.
- (8) Under orders of H. H. the Maharaja Sahab in October 1945, certain changes involving rearrangement of beds, constructing a few more rockeries, paving with black stones along the paths in lake garden, cement concreting paths etc. were carried out in the Ooty garden. The most important work done was the planting of a regular fruit section.
- (9) A tree planting ceremony was done at the gracious hands of Shrimant Yuvaraj Sahab on 5-4-46 on the occasion of his birth day near the Motibag School in L. V. Compound.

- (10) A fruit flower and vegetable show was held in the Public Park in the month of February 1946 opened at the gracious hands of H. H. the Maharaja Saheb. An ornamental garden and a water garden were specially prepared for the occasion.

374. **ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS** — Some of the important archaeological works were carried out at the suggestion of the Archaeological department such as permanent conservation of excavated portion of Sahasraling Tank at Patan and Sun Temple at Modhera etc.

375. **FURNITURE FACTORY** — The State Furniture Factory executed orders of manufacturing furniture from all the departments of the State and also the Khangī department. It also did the work of carving, painting, polishing and upholstering and covering the furniture articles in suitable materials. During the year under report, the Factory received orders amounting to Rs. 1,09,740 as against Rs. 1,21,400 of the previous year. The factory on the whole worked satisfactorily.

With a view to secure public orders as far as possible, the Government have sanctioned the proposal for charging 5% over head charges only on orders received from the public for a period of 5 years from 1945-46 to 1950-51.

376. **MECHANICAL BRANCH** — The Mechanical branch of the P. W. department inspected and kept in working order pumping plants at several places.

The following important works were also done by the branch:-

- (1) Erecting 2 engines for Stud Farm.
- (2) Erecting sewage motor pump at Pratapgunj A. P. S.
- (3) Erecting engine and pump at Sankheda water works.
- (4) Erected pump, counter shaft and pulleys at Kathor water works.
- (5) Padra bore work of gauging carried out.
- (6) Erecting motor pump at Resident's Bungalow.
- (7) Erecting stanley motor pump for T. B. Hospital water works.
- (8) Erected engine and pump at Nimetta.
- (9) Gauged wells for water works at Amreli.

377. **EXPENDITURE** — The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 59.77 lakhs as against Rs. 48.36 lakhs in the preceding year. Of these, Rs. 23.36 lakhs were on new works, Rs. 14.45 lakhs on repair and Rs. 13.46 lakhs were deposit contributions,

Post War Schemes

378. ROAD SCHEMES — The Post War Development schemes for Baroda State and Attached Area approved by the P. W. D. Communication Committee for Post War Reconstruction have been submitted to the Government for sanction and they are under consideration of the Government.

379. IRRIGATION SCHEME—A Post War Irrigation programme was prepared and approved by the Post War Committee and is now under consideration of Government.

380. BUILDINGS—

An Arts and Science College at Visnagar : The Government accepted the donation of Rs. 4,00,000 for this work. As the College was to be started from 1947, the work of constructing a portion of Science Wing of the above College building was completed and handed over to the College authorities during the year under report. The complete scheme amounting to Rs. 13,00,000 was prepared and submitted to Government for sanction.

Medical College at Baroda : The complete scheme for the proposed Medical College was prepared and submitted to Government for sanction during the year under report.

Planning and estimating for proposed Engineering College, Commerce College, Women's Hostel, Technical School at Navsari, Girls' High School at Navsari, District Hospital at Navsari, District Hospital at Kalol etc. are being prepared.

CHAPTER XXV

STATE RAILWAYS

381. THE STATE RAILWAYS — The State owned 795 miles of Railways, including Bodeli - Chhota Udaipur Railway. Of these, 21 were Broad Gauge, 346 miles Metre Gauge and 428 miles Narrow Gauge. The capital invested in the Railways at the end of the year was Rs. 597 lakhs.

The Railway mainly consists of three systems viz. Narrow Gauge, Metre Gauge and Broad Gauge and is spreaded over different districts of the State as under:—

Name of the Section	District	Miles	Capital invested Rs. in lakhs
NARROW GAUGE			
Gaekwad's Dabhoi Group and Baroda Petlad-Vaso-Petla -Bhadran Rlys.		278	270 6
Broach - Jambusar (Kavi-Dahej) ... Broach		72'38	24 4
Kosamba - Umarpada Navsari		38 15	21'9
Bhimora - Waghai "		39'00	24'3
METRE GAUGE			
Gaekwar's Mehsana Railway ...Mehsana		255	166'7
Khijadia - Dhari Amreli		38	20 3
Prachu Road - Kodinar "		16	5 0
Okha Railway... .. Okha		37	49'5
BROAD GAUGE			
Anand - Tarapur Baroda		21 42	14'6

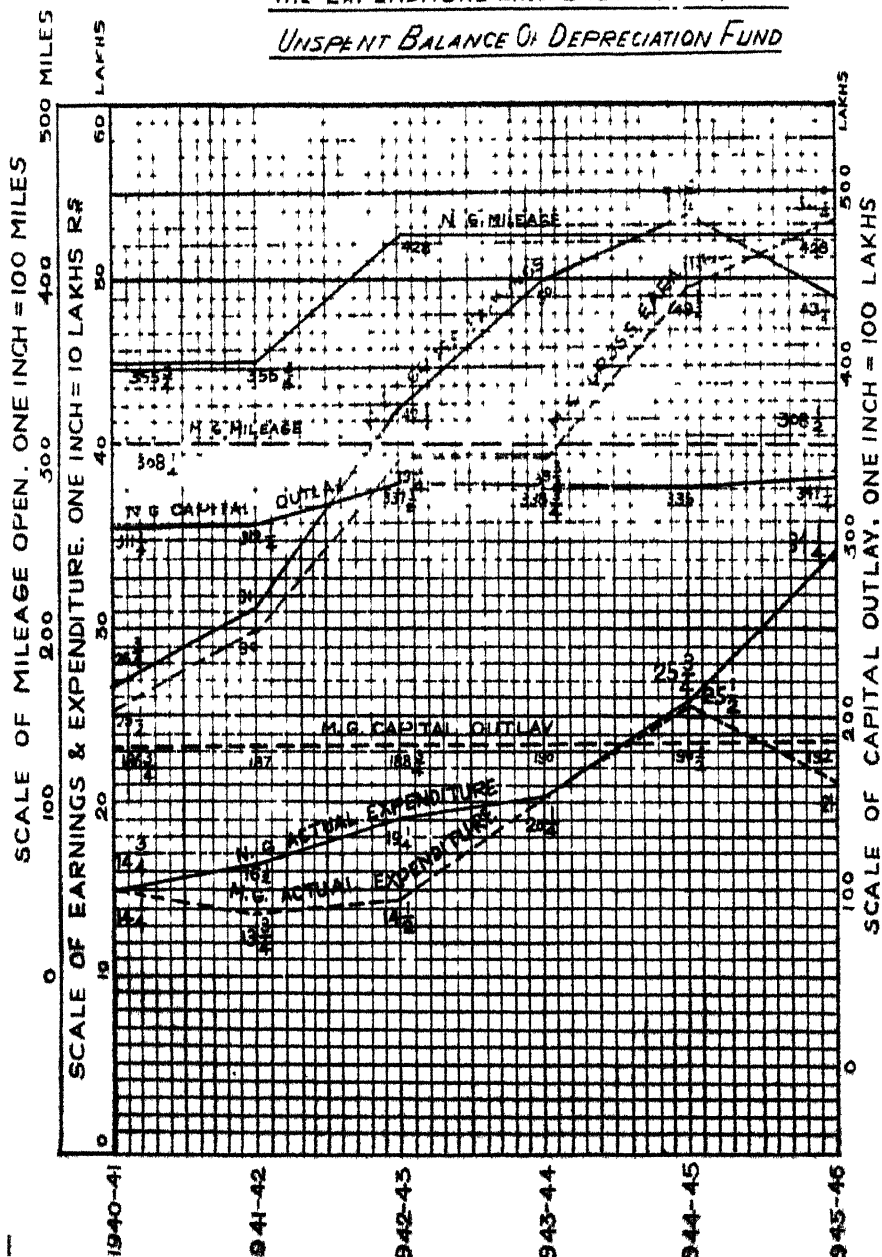
Of these railways, the Anand - Tarapur Railway is managed by the B. B. & C. I. Railway Administration and the Okha Railway by the Jamnagar-Dwarka Railway Administration. The remaining 737 miles are worked directly by the State.

382. FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE RAILWAYS — Improvement in gross earnings was maintained during this year on all sections except the Narrow Gauge including Broach Jambusar Railway and the Okha Railways. The gross earnings amounted to Rs. 115·8 lakhs as against Rs. 116·7 lakhs in the preceding year. Thus there is a fall of Rs. 0·9

MILEAGE, CAPITAL OUTLAY, GROSS EARNINGS & WORKING EXPENDITURE

NOTE :-

THE EXPENDITURE LINE DOES NOT INCLUDE
UNSPENT BALANCE OF DEPRECIATION FUND



lakhs in earnings on the whole which works out to 0·8 percent only compared with the previous year's earnings; the fall on Narrow gauge railway (including the Broach-Jambusar Section) amounted to Rs. 4·47 lakhs which is due to fall in goods and passenger traffic on the Broach-Jambusar Railway and to fall in goods traffic on the remainder of the Narrow Gauge. The fall on the Okha railway was Rs. 0·21 lakh and calls for no special remarks.

383. WORKING EXPENSES — The working expenses excluding contribution to Depreciation Fund were Rs. 61·2 lakhs as against Rs. 47·4 lakhs in the previous year. The increase of Rs. 13·8 lakhs was due to the high cost of railway materials and stores, a substantial reduction in the rates of grains distributed to railway staff through cheap grain shops, and to repairs to damages caused by floods.

The net earnings amounted to Rs. 46 lakhs as against Rs. 62·8 lakhs and return on capital was 7·4 per cent as against 10·66 per cent in the previous year.

The following comparative statement shows the financial results of working of the Railways for 1945-46, 1944-45 and 1943-44 separately:—

Year	Capital invested	Gross earnings	Expenditure	Net earnings	Working percentage	Percentage of return on capital	Length in miles	Cost per mile	Working expenses per mile
(Figures in lakhs of rupees)									
NARROW GAUGE									
1944	314·49	44·00	19·59	24·41	44·53	7·76	355·73	0·88	5,508
1945	310·87	48·47	23·58	24·89	48·64	8·01	355·73	0·87	6,628
1946	316·86	45·02	29·39	15·63	65·27	4·93	355·73	0·89	8,260
METRE GAUGE									
1944	190·09	39·65	16·95	22·70	42·75	11·91	308·43	0·62	5,496
1945	190·60	49·44	20·58	28·86	41·62	15·14	308·43	0·62	6,671
1946	192·00	52·24	26·91	25·93	50·92	13·51	308·43	0·62	8,724
BROAD GAUGE									
1944	14·61	5·16	2·80	2·36	54·36	16·13	21·42	0·68	13,097
1945	14·61	5·79	3·09	2·70	53·46	18·44	21·42	0·68	14,444
1946	14·61	6·13	3·74	2·39	61·03	16·35	21·42	0·68	17,458
Okha Railway									
1944	48·79	6·82	2·66	4·16	38·96	8·54	37·21	1·31	7,144
1945	48·86	7·71	3·56	4·15	46·14	8·50	37·21	1·31	9,563
1946	49·48	7·50	5·24	2·26	69·83	4·57	37·21	1·33	14,071
Broach Jambusar Railway									
1944	24·14	5·90	2·50	3·40	42·36	14·10	72·38	0·33	3,456
1945	24·23	5·28	3·06	2·22	58·04	9·15	72·38	0·33	4,238
1946	24·42	4·26	4·48	-0·22 (loss)	105·07 (loss)	-0·88 (loss)	72·38	0·34	6,183

384. **DEPRECIATION FUND** — Contributions to the Depreciation fund is calculated at the rate of 1.66 per cent on the capital at charge at the end of the previous year. On this basis, the contribution made to the fund in 1945-46 was Rs. 8.58 lakhs. Expenditure from the fund was Rs. 3.01 lakhs.

The position of the Depreciation fund at the end of the year is shown below:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Particulars	Narrow Gauge	Metre Gauge	Broach-Jambusar
Balance on 31-7-45	27.57	0.52	0.22
Contribution during the year 1945-46	5.00	3.18	0.40
	<u>32.97</u>	<u>3.70</u>	<u>0.62</u>
Expenditure during 1945-46 ...	4.80	+2.73 (Credit)	0.94
Balance on 31-7-46	28.17	+0.43	—0.32

385. **RESERVE FUND** — In addition to the Depreciation fund, there is the Railway Reserve fund which is credited with the surplus of net earnings after deducting interest on the capital outlay at $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. This fund is intended

- (i) to meet the deficiency of gross earnings to defray working expenses, should such a contingency arise any year; and
- (ii) to provide funds for further capital expenditure.

The balance in this fund at the end of the year was Rs. 139.78 lakhs, exclusive of Anand-Tarapur and Okha Railways as against Rs. 115.60 lakhs at the end of the previous year.

386. **IMPORTANT WORKS** — A number of important works for the comfort of passengers and improvement of the Railways were undertaken during the year. Extra water-ways were also provided. The permanent way was improved by replacing the existing rails with 50 lb. rails over Kalol-Vijapur and Mehsana-Taranga Section.

387. **TRAFFIC** — The following table compares the traffic receipts with those of the previous year:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Particulars	Narrow Gauge		Metre Gauge		Broach-Jambusar Railway	
	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46
Coaching... ..	22.25	22.96	29.63	33.15	3.27	2.74
Goods	24.09	19.48	18.97	19.12	1.91	1.45
Miscellaneous... ..	2.13	2.58	0.83	0.57	0.10	0.07
Total	<u>48.47</u>	<u>45.02</u>	<u>49.43</u>	<u>52.84</u>	<u>5.28</u>	<u>4.26</u>

The following table gives the comparative figures of cotton traffic, which is the principal item of goods traffic:—

Year	No of bales full pressed	No. of bales half pressed	Kapas in Wagon loads
Narrow Gauge			
1943-44	1,37,984	20,725	95
1944-45	50,719	10,134	53
1945-46	53,165	18,337	0
Broach-Jambusar Rly.			
1943-44	16,921	2,177	1
1944-45	9,190	551	0
1945-46	12,158	984	86
Metre Gauge Rly.			
1943-44	64,616	2,024	1,194
1944-45	1,80,429	2,804	861
1945-46	61,178	416	427

388. SERIOUS ACCIDENTS ON KOSAMBA ZANKHVAV SECTION — Damage was caused by rains, on the Kosamba-Zankhvav Section Dn. Train No. 32 met with a serious accident between Mangrol and Simodra on 22-9-1945. Only the driver received severe burns and succumbed to the injuries. The section had to be closed temporarily for all descriptions of traffic until 1st November 1945.

Several breaches were caused on the Broach-Jambusar Railway. For over one month, no trains could be run and the normal service was resumed early in December 1945.

389. WAGON POOL — The Metre Gauge Wagon pool, introduced by the Railway Board in 1939, continued in operation.

390. RAILROAD COMPETITION — This has almost disappeared due to the rationing of petrol. The motor-bus services organised by the department functioned satisfactorily.

391. LOCAL AGENTS AT FLAG STATIONS — Local Agents worked at 19 flag stations. The system has proved satisfactory, and the earnings at these stations show an improvement.

392. TICKETLESS TRAVEL — A travelling ticket examiner checks tickets over the isolated branches. Elsewhere 'squad system' is in force.

393. PAPER SLIP-TICKETS — Due to the shortage of card tickets and very large increase in passenger traffic, paper 'slip-tickets' introduced for local booking last year continued in this year also.

394. RAIL-CUM-SEA-ROUTE — The rail-cum-sea-route via Broach and Kavi Bunder for traffic to and from Kathiawar side and Bombay was in operation as usual.

395. **MEDICAL AID TO RAILWAY STAFF** — Medical assistance for employees is provided at Railway dispensaries at all important railway centres, viz. Goya Gate, Dabhoi, Samni and Mehsana. For the staff on isolated lines, special arrangements for attendance have been made with the Medical department. During the year, 21,288 employees including members of their families took advantage of these facilities.

396. **SANITARY COMMITTEES** — Sanitary committees have been appointed at most of the important stations both on Narrow Gauge and Metre Gauge Sections. They have been doing useful work.

397. **RECREATION FOR STAFF** — The Railway Institute at Goya-gate and in Baroda City as well as at Dabhoi continued to function. They are being managed by committees elected annually by the members.

398. **CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETY** — The society has been rendering useful financial assistance to its members for the last twenty-four years. There were 1,291 members as against 1,260 in the preceding year. The total shares held this year numbered 13,044 as against 12,885 in the previous year. The working capital was Rs. 1,05,626 and the net profit for the year amounted to Rs. 3,852.

399. **COLLECTION OF TERMINAL TAX** — Terminal tax on goods and parcel traffic collected by the railways on behalf of the Baroda and Petlad municipality at Goya Gate, Vishwamitri and Petlad stations amounted to Rs. 1,22,578. The work of collecting terminal tax on behalf of Padra municipality was taken over from 1st of August 1945. The amount collected was Rs. 29,912.

400. **STAFF BENEFIT FUND** — The G. B. S. Rly. had a Fines Fund account opened in the year 1927. It was utilised for the benefit of the staff at the discretion of the General Manager. The fund was replaced by the staff Benefit Fund on the occasion of the last official birthday celebration of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb.

The objects of the fund are:—

- (i) education of the staff and their children,
- (ii) recreation of the staff and their children,
- (iii) providing maternity benefits and
- (iv) provision for the relief of all distress to the staff or their family members not otherwise provided for.

It is managed by a committee of 5 members at the headquarters of the railway, with the General Manager as its Chairman.

CHAPTER XXVI

EDUCATION

401. **GENERAL PROGRESS** — Satisfactory progress was maintained in all the branches of education and important measures of reorganisation to improve the quality and extend the facilities available were adopted by the Government.

Medical and Engineering colleges in Baroda city, affiliated to Bombay University, have been sanctioned by the Government, and preparation for their opening are well advanced.

The keen desire for higher education is reflected in the number of donations for arts colleges. Arts colleges at Navsari and Petlad and arts and science college at Visnagar have started working during the year under report, and a college for Amreli is under consideration: soon all the four districts of the State will have colleges of their own.

Important steps were taken to make adult literacy campaign more effective. With the object of enlisting the co-operation of educated men and women, adult literacy associations have been formed in all the municipal towns and entrusted with the duty to organising and conducting literacy classes. The scale of grants and bonus to workers in these classes have also been revised and brought upto the standard prevailing in the Bombay Presidency. A monthly magazine, specially meant for the new adult literates, has been started.

To ensure reasonable pay and offer security of tenure, rules based on the recommendations of the Central Advisory Committee of Education have been sanctioned by the Government for teachers of government and private secondary schools.

In accordance with the Government of India scheme to send students abroad for technical training and studies, a number of students are deputed.

The department has completed a ten year programme of post war development and reorganisation. It envisages a very considerable extension of education in all the stages, specially in primary and technical education.

402. **SCHOLARSHIPS** — The State has a fairly comprehensive scheme of scholarships especially for the backward and poor communities. In the college, besides merit and other special scholarships, there are

30 scholarships for students of backward communities and 10 per cent of the students are given freeships. Of these, eight are for Muslims and fourteen for the scheduled classes. In the Kalabhavan, there are 64 government scholarships of the value of Rs. 8,185 per year, of which 22 are for backward classes and 30 for artisans. There are five scholarships for medical studies, two for agriculture, two for veterinary and one for commerce and economics. In secondary schools, there are government scholarships worth Rs. 18,017 a year. Besides this, 20 per cent students in all secondary schools are free and there are additional freeships for Muslims and backward classes. To encourage education of girls, 25 to 45 per cent, varying with the district, of the girls studying in secondary schools are awarded freeship.

403. INSTITUTIONS — There were 2,296 primary schools in the State, of which 2,220 were government and 76 aided schools. These had on the register 2,76,932 pupils or 9.0 per cent of the population of school-going age.

The number of secondary schools was 197-50 high schools and 147 A. V. schools, with 41,036 pupils. Of these, 17 high schools and 35 A. V. schools were government institutions.

University education is provided in the Baroda College, the Pratapsinh College of Commerce and Economics, and the Secondary Teacher's Training College. There were 2,397 students in these colleges. The Garda Arts College at Navsari had 88 students, college at Visnagar had 96 and Petlad college had 54 on the roll.

Technical education is imparted at the Kalabhavan and the vocational high school at Baroda, the district industrial schools at Amreli and Patan and the Navsari Technical School at Navsari. There were altogether 773 students in these institutions.

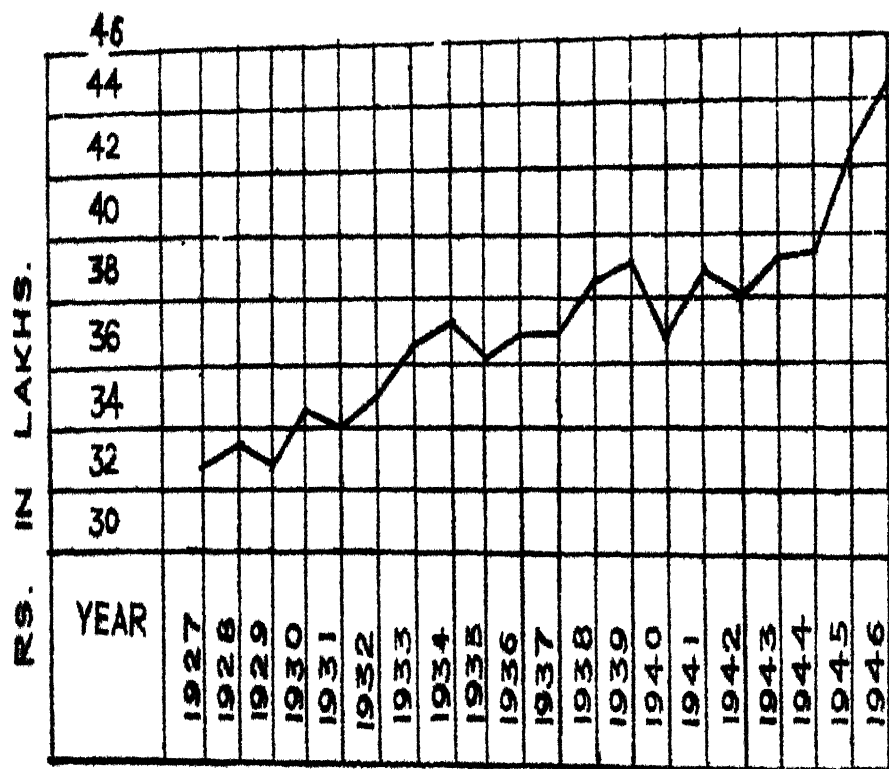
For the training of teachers, the State maintains a college for secondary teachers and two training schools for primary teachers. In the former there were 135 students and in the latter 642.

Besides these, there are 5 music schools, 10 sanskrit schools, 2 schools for defectives and 13 boarding houses for the depressed and backward communities. There are 35 such special institutions, with 1,706 pupils attending them, of which 450 were girls.

I. University Education

404. THE BARODA COLLEGE — The University of Bombay in the year 1881 recognised the Baroda College for the First Year Examination only. Later on, it became a full-fledged Arts and Science College. Since 1900, it has been recognised for post-graduate studies. ~~Today 20 members~~ of the college staff are recognised as University

DIAGRAM SHOWING INCREASE IN EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURE



Post-graduate teachers, of whom 16 are on Arts side and 4 on the Science side. The subjects, in which instructions or guidance in post-graduate studies given, are English, Sanskrit, Persian, Gujarati, Marathi, History, Economics, Philosophy, Ancient Indian Culture, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics and Urdu.

The number of students on the college rolls at the end of the academic year (March 1946) was 1,365 including 177 women students and 102 postgraduate students as compared with 1,421 at the end of the previous year. The number of students belonging to the Baroda State was 1,213 which gives a percentage of 88.8 compared with 87.3 last year. 20 students came from other Indian States and 132 from British India.

The following table shows the receipts and expenditure of the college and the average net cost per each pupil during the last three years :—

Year	Expenditure	Receipts	Net cost per pupil Rs.
<i>(in lakhs of rupees.)</i>			
1945-46	2.32	1.60	53-5-7
1944-45	2.10	1.34	54-3-4
1943-44	2.08	1.25	61-3-8

405. VISNAGAR COLLEGE — It was decided to open an Arts and Science College at Visnagar (Mehsana district) from June 1946 and a donation of Rs. 4,00,000 (four lakhs) from Sheth Maneklal Nanchand, a wealthy and philanthropic citizen of Visnagar, was accepted as contribution towards the expenses. Owing to difficulties of railway priorities and inaccessibility of building materials, the ground floor of the Science Wing could not be ready in time and so the application for affiliation on the science side was withdrawn from the Bombay University and only the First Year and Intermediate Arts classes have been affiliated to the University. There are 5 professors including Principal V. K. Gokak, 4 lecturers, 1 physical instructor and 1 laboratory assistant in Chemistry.

The number of students on the college rolls at the end of the year was 96 including 3 girl-students.

A hostel for 25 students has also been started in a suitable rented building and this will form the nucleus for the regular college hostel when it is built.

The expenditure during the year under report was Rs. 1,13,807 excluding Rs. 31,906-9-3 spent towards purchasing Dead Stock and Science articles and the receipts were Rs. 4,935.

406. **SORABJI BURJORJI GARDIA COLLEGE, NAVSARI**—The S. B. Gardia College was started from 20th June 1945 by the Managing Committee of Sir C. J. N. Z. Madresa by receiving private donation of Rs. 2,00,000 (two lakhs) from Sheth Sorabji Burjorji Gardia of Navsari. It is under the management of the Governing Body of the S. B. Gardia College. The college is affiliated to the University of Bombay in First Year and Intermediate Arts classes.

The number of students on the college rolls during the year under report was 88 including 24 girl-students.

The expenditure of the college during the year under report was Rs. 37,206 and the receipts were Rs. 11,254.

407. **PETLAD COLLEGE**—This college was started from 20-6-46 by the Petlad Education Trust and it is affiliated to the University of Bombay in F.Y. and Intermediate Arts classes. There are 2 professors including Principal K. L. Desai, 6 lecturers and 1 physical instructor.

The number of students at the end of the year was 47 boys and 7 girls.

The expenditure of the college during the year under report was Rs. 2,213 and the receipts were Rs. 3,480.

408. **SECONDARY TEACHER'S TRAINING COLLEGE**—The Secondary Teachers' Training College was started in 1935. Now it has three distinct departments—a degree course for a strength of 75 graduate students, the T. D. classes affiliated for 60 Matriculate students and the M. Ed. Section dealing with research students. The staff consists of a Principal, three professors and nine lecturers. The Baroda High School is attached to the college as its Practising School.

The college admitted in June 1946, 53 candidates in the B. T., and 17 in the T. D. class. There were 8 research students registered, two preparing for the Ph. D. degree and 6 for M. Ed. degree.

Out of 61 students of the college, who appeared at the B. T. examination, 56 passed in both the parts and out of 22 students who appeared at the T. D. examination, 15 passed in both the parts.

57 undergraduates and four graduates appeared at the theoretical part of the S. T. C. examination and 5 at the practical part. 5 candidates were awarded the certificate.

An important activity of the year was the organising of a Refresher Course for thirty graduate teachers who had their teacher training during the years 1935-1940. The main topics discussed were the advances in educational theory and practice made since they

finished their training, the Post-war problems and plans of education of India and the special problems of every one of these teachers.

During the year, an Inter-collegiate Essay Competition was also organised for the Secondary Training College students, the subject being "Sex Instruction in Indian Secondary Schools".

The total expenditure of the college during the year under report was Rs. 40,871 as against Rs. 37,294 and the receipts Rs. 26,055 as against Rs. 24,222 respectively of the previous year.

409. PRATAPSIKH COLLEGE OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMICS — The Pratapsikh College of Commerce and Economics was started in 1942. It showed very satisfactory progress during the year under report. The number of students on the roll at the end of the year was 716, as against 581 last year.

Out of the 55 students sent for the B. Com. examination, 6 students secured Second class and 8 pass class. The number of students sent up for Inter Commerce Examination was 339. Out of this, 2 students got First class, 32 stood in Second class and 116 got pass class. The number of students examined for the F. Y. Com. Certificate Examination was 238; out of which, 3 students secured First Class, 22 Second Class and 179 got pass class.

The total expenditure and receipts of the college during the year 1945-46 was Rs. 77,688 and Rs. 94,146 respectively.

II. Secondary Education

410. GENERAL — The policy of the Government is not to open any more Government secondary schools but to encourage private enterprise as far as possible by giving grants-in-aid according to rules in force.

During the year, there were 50 high schools in the State, 17 Government, 30 grant-in-aid and 3 recognised. The number of A. V. Schools was 147—35 Government, 33 grant-in-aid and 79 recognised. The total number of schools was 197 as against 171 in the previous year. Out of these, 2 Government high schools and 7 A. V. Schools (3 Govt., 3 grant-in-aid and 1 recognised) were specially meant for girls. Increase in number of institutions is due to swelling in the number of grant-in-aid institutions (4 high schools & 12 A. V. schools) and recognised institutions (1 high School and 9 A. V. Schools) and one Government A. V. School.

The total number of pupils in secondary schools was 41,036 as against 34,790 in the previous year. Of these, 11,815 including 2,481 girls were in Government schools; 20,981 including 1,706 girls were

in aided schools; and 8,240 including 48 girls were in other recognised institutions.

The Inspector of Secondary schools inspected 19 high schools and 28 A. V. schools during the year. Efforts were made to come in close touch with the rural population and to find out the real cause of general inefficiency in rural schools. Inspection was conducted in a spirit of sympathy and good will. Special attention was paid to the teaching of English. 103 demonstration lessons were given by him.

411. GRANT-IN-AID INSTITUTIONS — The total number of schools and institutions that received grant-in-aid from Government was 63 (30 high schools and 33 A. V. schools). The total grant given to privately managed institutions during the year was Rs. 1,06,242 as against Rs. 99,235 in the previous year.

412. MATRICULATION RESULTS — The average percentage of successful students for Government high schools was 48.5, for private schools it was 44.5 and for all high schools it was 46.0.

413. PHYSICAL TRAINING — Physical training has been made compulsory and now forms a part of the regular curriculum in all schools. For imparting intensive physical training to the untrained teachers, training centres were opened and camps were organised.

414. MANUAL TRAINING — The value of education through hand-craft is now recognised. Manual training and Sloyd classes are therefore attached to the high schools at Mehsana, Pattan, Visnagar, Padra, Petlad, Bhadrans, Kathore, Gangadhara, Amreli and Dwarka. The students take considerable interest in the work.

415. EXPENDITURE & RECEIPTS — The expenditure on secondary education during the year was Rs. 6,23,465 and the receipts were Rs. 2,84,756 as against Rs. 5,68,239 and Rs. 2,00,751 respectively in the preceding year.

III. Education of the Royal Children

416. SENIOR CLASSES — There has been a very noticeable progress in the studies of Shrimant Yuvaraj Saheb and Shrimant Akkaraje. Their standard of attainment in English is better than that of the students in our local schools. They are also taking considerable interest in Science.

417. JUNIOR CLASSES — Shrimant Pramila Raje is in Junior class No. 1. Shrimant Saria Raje, Shrimant Vasundhara Raje are in Junior class II. Shrimant Ranjitsinh Raje is in the Junior Class No. III which is the Montessori-class of the school. Shrimant Lalita Raje and

Shrimant Sangramsinh Raje form the Junior Class No. IV, and they are attracted towards "Letters and Ank" etc. Both of them make good effort in picking up English reading script and in adding words to their English-vocabulary.

During the year two examinations were held and the Royal Children made steady progress in their study.

During the Divali Vacation the Royal Children accompanied Her Highness the Maharani Saheb in a trip to Kathawad, and they had the splendid opportunity of observing the varied scenes of the country. During the year a picnic party was arranged at Ajva and the Royal Children together with their Companions enjoyed the occasion with great delight and were inspired by the natural scenes under the shadows of Pavagad.

With the kind permission of Shrimant Maharani Saheb. Mr. Young, the Tutor to Shrimant Yuvaraj Saheb, fixed 15th February 1946 as the "School Sports Day" and the Royal Children took part in various sports.

IV. Primary Education

418. SCHOOLS AND PUPILS — At the end of the year under report there were in all 2,329 primary schools in the State having 2,76,932 pupils on the rolls, as against 2,355 schools with 2,77,829 pupils at the end of the previous year. They are classified as under:—

		1945-46						
Kind		Higher	Primary schools		Total	Boys	Pupils	
			Lower				Girls	
Government	...	528	1,692	2,220	1,54,761		1,13,979	
„ Aided	...	7	69	76	3,723		2,309	
Unaided	... ..	2	29	31	1,196		624
Fund	... ..	1	1	2	210		130
Total	...	538	1,791	2,329	1,59,890		1,17,042	
1944-45								
Government	...	575	1,674	2,249	1,55,424		1,14,213	
Aided	... ..	5	68	73	3,726		2,230
Unaided	... ..	2	30	32	1,216		657
Fund	... ..	1	1	2	218		145
Total	...	583	1,772	2,355	1,60,584		1,17,245	
Difference	...	-45	plus 19	-26	-694		-203	

N. B.:—It may be specially noted that the higher primary schools have no existence, separate from the lower primary schools of which they are mere adjuncts or extensions.

The percentage of boys and girls under instruction in primary schools to the total male and female population was 10·8 and 8·5 respectively as against 10·9 and 8·5 respectively in the previous year. The average daily attendance during the year was 77·1 as against 79·1 in the previous year.

419. **WASTAGE AND STAGNATION** — The department is fully alive to the causes of wastage and stagnation in primary schools and is making steady efforts to check them by the following measures :—

- (i) Improving the attendance,
- (ii) Making efforts to see that all children get enrolled in the beginning of the academic year,
- (iii) Improving the qualifications of the teaching and the inspecting staff,
- (iv) Increasing the number of women teachers,
- (v) Improving the staffing of schools by amalgamation of small schools with adjoining bigger ones,
- (vi) Stricter and more systematic supervision by the inspecting staff,
- (vii) Special attention to backward students.

The results of these efforts are slow but satisfactory. The proportion of pupils in class V to class I is gradually improving every year as will be evident from the following figures:—

Year	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V*	Proportion of class V to class I
1941-42	73,871	59,284	53,357	42,387	37,368	50·7
1942-43	71,821	57,438	53,494	42,466	36,169	50·4
1943-44	76,855	57,716	51,479	42,271	37,509	48·8
1944-45	80,528	59,841	51,212	41,241	37,967	52·2
1945-46	81,085	61,553	52,100	40,685	37,836	51·2

*9,794 pupils studying in English class I are included in class V.

Decrease in the proportion of class I to class V in the year under report by 1·0 is due to the lowering down the standard of eligibility for admission to the English schools from class V to IV.

420. **TRAINING OF TEACHERS** — The efficiency of teaching depends to a large extent on the qualities and training of teachers. Steady efforts have been made to train all primary school teachers and to improve the training given. Admissions to the training schools have been increased from time to time and during the year the two schools

had 642 candidates under training. A minimum period of two years' training has been made compulsory for all teachers. As a result of these efforts, there has been an improvement in the proportion of trained teachers and in the quality of their teaching. Out of the total number of 6746 teachers in primary schools, 5339 were trained teachers, as against 5331 in the previous year. Of the remaining 1407, the majority were teachers with more than 10 years' experience.

421. **GIRLS' SCHOOLS** — The total number of girls schools was 293, of which 283 were Government, and 10 were private schools, as against 296 and 9 respectively in the previous year. Decrease in the number of schools is mainly due to the closing of higher primary classes. The number of girls attending these schools was 47,332 as against 46,977 in the previous year. Besides these, there were 69,710 girls attending mixed schools. Thus the total number of girls attending primary schools was 1,17,042, as against 1,17,245 in the previous year.

422. **KINDERGARTEN SCHOOLS** — The total number of Kindergarten schools was 36 with 2,349 children as against 32 with 2,202 children in the previous year. Of the 36 schools, 31 were private institutions with 1,862 children. To encourage private efforts in this field, the Government have sanctioned an additional increase of Rs. 1,523 to the existing amount of Rs. 3,200 for giving grants-in-aid to these schools.

423. **EXPENDITURE** — Total expenditure on primary schools was Rs. 24,40,525 as against Rs. 20,12,073 in the previous year.

V. Education of the Special Classes and Communities

424. **BACKWARD CLASSES** — The Government continued the policy of providing special educational facilities to the members of the backward communities like Antyaj, Raniparaj, Thakardas, Waghers and Muslims. Poor and deserving students of these communities are given free studentships and scholarships in all secondary schools and there are special freeships and scholarships for them in the Kalabhavan and other collegiate institutions. In some places, there are special primary schools for them. Besides these facilities, the Government maintain a number of hostels and boarding schools for the children of these classes. For the inspection of these schools, special Deputy Inspectors are appointed from these communities.

425. **THE ANTYAJ** — The number of Government Antyaj schools was 62 with 3,921 pupils (2,230 boys & 1,691 girls), as against 64 schools with 4,015 pupils at the end of the previous year. There are 4 recognised Antyaj schools with 139 pupils as against 5 schools with 125 pupils in the previous year. Besides these, 18,227 Antyaj children were attending Gujarati and other mixed schools, as against

18,050 pupils in the last year. There were 193 students in secondary schools, 22 in colleges, 25 in training schools, 6 in the Kalabhavan and other Industrial schools. Thus the total number of Antyaj students under instruction was 22,533 or 9.7 p. c. to the total Antyaj population of the State as against 22,485 or 9.7 p. c. in the previous year. The Government supplies books and other school requirements to these students free of charge. In addition to these, thirty scholarships are awarded in primary schools, 17 in secondary schools and special scholarships for collegiate education. Antyaj boarding houses are maintained by Government at Baroda, Patan, Amreli and Vyara. These boarding houses had 43, 23, 7 and 25 boarders respectively during the year under report.

A sum of Rs. 15,000 was donated some years ago by Sheth Jugalkishor Birla to encourage religious education among the students of the depressed classes. From the income of another fund donated by Sheth Jugalkishor Birla, a preacher is engaged for propaganda work among this class to improve their habits and to persuade them to educate themselves.

426. THE RANIPARAJ — The education of boys and girls of Raniparaj and other forest tribes living in sparsely populated places with hardly any centre of habitation, is a problem of peculiar difficulty. Compulsion has proved unsuccessful. As the schools were few and situated far from the residence of pupils, attendance was very poor and the teachers from the plains were not willing to work in these areas. After the first experience of compulsion, the raniparaj area was exempted from the operation of the Compulsory Primary Education Act, and a scheme of grant-in-aid schools was introduced instead. The result, however, was not encouraging and in 1934 it was decided to reinforce compulsion.

For the benefit of the boys and girls belonging to the raniparaj areas, six boarding houses are maintained at Songadh, Vyara, Mahuva, Vakal, Anaval, Chokhawada and Amroli. The total number of boarders on these boarding houses was 96, 98, 30, 50, 43, 30 and 47 respectively. There is also a boarding house for girls at Songadh with 41 girls. Model farms are attached to the boarding houses at Songadh and Vyara for practical training in agriculture.

To train teachers from this backward community, preference is given to candidates of this community to join training schools. During the year under report, 69 students were studying in training schools, of whom 39 were lady students.

There were 12,024 raniparaj pupils under instruction in primary schools. Besides these, there were 82 in secondary schools, 3 in technical schools, 69 in training schools and 5 in colleges. Thus

the total number of ramparaj students under instruction was 12,183 or 3.3 per cent to the total ramparaj population as against 12,382 or 3.3 per cent in the previous year.

427. **MUSLIMS** — The number of Government Urdu schools was 66 with 8,166 pupils (5,226 boys and 2,940 girls) as against 64 schools with 7,963 pupils in the previous year. There were 17 private schools with 1,783 (783 boys and 1,000 girls) as against 16 schools with 1,880 pupils at the end of the previous year. Besides these, 12,392 muslim pupils were attending other primary schools. Over and above these, there were 1,770 pupils in secondary schools, 4 in technical institutions, 22 in training schools and 86 in collegiate institutions. Thus the total number of muslim pupils under instruction was 24,223 or 10.8 per cent of the total muslim population as against 24,321 at the end of the previous year.

428. **THE WAGHERS** — The education of Waghers of Okhamandal continued to receive special attention of the Government. In the boarding house for Wagher boys at Dwarka, the students are given manual training at the workshops attached to the institution. The number of boarders at the end of the year was 61. Special scholarships are sanctioned for the students of this class for receiving technical and collegiate education.

VI. Schools for Defectives and Orphanage

429. **SCHOOLS FOR DEAF, MUTE AND BLIND** — There are two schools in the State for the education of the Deaf, Mute and the Blind, one at Baroda and the other at Mehsana with 30 and 55 pupils respectively. At both the places there are boarding houses where boarding and lodging arrangements are made free of charge. Besides reading and writing, pupils are taught tailoring, drawing, carpentry, wood-carving, cane work, tape-weaving and music. The total expenditure incurred on these institutions amounted to Rs. 21,417 as against Rs. 18,443 in the preceding year.

430. **ORPHANAGE** — The orphanage at Amreli had 14 inmates as against 15 in the last year. The maximum number of admissions is fixed at 50. Most of the inmates attend Amreli Industrial School. There is also a special class for tailoring.

VII. Training of Teachers

431. **TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS** — For the training of primary school teachers, the Government maintain separate training schools for Men and Women. Formerly in the training school for men one third of the total candidates, and in the training school for women, all the candidates got stipends from Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 per month. Government, however, have been pleased to order that

stipends of Rs. 13 p. m. be given to scholars in the training school for men, for the duration of the war time conditions.

432. **TRAINING SCHOOL FOR MEN** — In the training school for men, the number of students was 356 as against 369 in the previous year. Of these, 230 students were living in the hostels provided for them.

433. **TRAINING SCHOOL FOR WOMEN** — In the training school for women, there were 286 students as against 269 in the previous year. Of these, 128 were accommodated in the hostel.

434. **EXPENDITURE** — The total expenditure on these training schools was Rs. 71,133 as against Rs. 64,554 in the previous year.

VIII. Technical Education

435. **THE KALABHAVAN** — The Central Polytechnic Institute known as Kalabhavan was established in March 1890. The work of the Institute is divided into 9 different departments of study—each under a qualified head.

The Institute offers diploma and certificate course and intermediate industrial school course. Instruction in Diploma courses is imparted in English, while in other two courses it is given in Vernacular (Gujarati).

The number of students attending the Kalabhavan at the end of July 1946 in the various departments was as under :—

Sr. No	Branch of study	No. of students in		
		1945-46	1944-45	1943-44
1	Mechanical Engineering	125	100	102
2	Electrical Engineering	56	77	79
3	Civil Engineering	31	60	74
4	Chemical Technology	96	107	115
5	Weaving Technology	71	63	68
6-7	Arts —(a) Drawing and Painting	25	21	28
	(b) Photography and Process			
8	Architecture	15	25	46
9	Intermediate Industrial classes	17	16	19
	Total	436	469	531

The Kalabhavan Workshop is run as a semi-commercial concern supplying steam, power, water, materials etc., needed for the practical training of students of the different departments as well as providing opportunities for large scale practice to students by accepting such

outside orders as are likely to prove useful in their training. Figures of work turned out and profits made are as follows for the last three years :—

Item	1-45-46	1-4-45	1-43-44
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Value of work done ...	44,065	56,424	54,131
Profits... ..	12,157	12,237	11,500

436. EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS — The total expenditure of the Kalabhavan came to Rs. 1-55 lakhs as against Rs. 1-43 lakhs in the previous year. The total income came to Rs. 0-22 lakh as against Rs. 0-32 lakh in the preceding year.

437. DISTRICT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS — The school at Amreli taught carpentry, weaving and tailoring and was fairly successful. During the year under report, there were 17, 8 and 24 students in the above mentioned courses respectively and the total expenditure came to Rs. 8,052 as against Rs. 10,862 in the preceding year.

The R. B. Sheth Punamchand Kotawala Industrial school at Patan, started with a donation from Mrs. Hiralaxmi Kotawala, offers industrial courses in (1) turning, fitting and smithy, (2) wiremen's course and (3) carpentry. During the year under report, there were 16, 10 and 5 students in the above mentioned courses respectively and the total expenditure came to Rs. 7,117 as against Rs. 8,012 in the preceding year.

438. NAVSARI TECHNICAL SCHOOL — The grant-in-aid Industrial School at Navsari viz. J. N. Tata Hunnarshala formerly run by Sir C. J. N. Z. Madressa Committee is closed from 30-4-46 and the same Institute is now run by the Baroda Government as Navsari Technical Institute from 1-5-46. Only first year classes in Higher Mechanical Engineering and Mechanical Apprentice Courses have been started this year and there are in all 8 students in the above mentioned courses.

439. REFORMATORY — The Baroda Juvenile Reformatory constituted under the Children's Court Act has been in existence since 1912. It continued to be under the control of the Principal, Kalabhavan. At the end of the year, there were 10 inmates as against 8 in the preceding year. The total expenditure was Rs. 5,016 as against Rs. 4,807 in the previous year.

440. GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHEME — The Technical Training Scheme of the Government of India at this Centre had to be closed from 1-2-1946 as the Unit occupying the Lalbagh lines had retired from the front and this building which was being used as a hostel for the trainees in the T. T. Scheme at this centre was no longer available. Without a suitable accommodation it was no longer possible to continue receiving recruits and training them.

Libraries

441. **LIBRARIES** — The Library department is organised into two sections for administrative convenience: (1) The Central Library for the city of Baroda, and (2) the District Library branch including the Travelling Libraries for the rest of the State.

442. **CENTRAL LIBRARY** — The Central Library is a free public library open to all citizens of Baroda. It is a general library functioning in the manner of a municipal library in Western countries. Unlike urban municipal libraries in the West, however, it is entirely financed by the State. It is a lending as well as a reference library. In its Gujarati and Marathi Reference collections which are by far the largest in these languages, it resembles the great national libraries. It has a complete collection of Gujarati books and the collection of Marathi books is verging completion. The total number of books in the library was 1,88,172, of which 4,771 were added during the year.

The number of books circulated during the year was 1,08,877 as against 1,18,518 in the preceding year. Of these, 22,475 were English, 53,041 Gujarati, 29,093 Marathi and the remaining 4,268 Hindi and Urdu etc. The number of readers was 4,371 as against 3,501 in the previous year.

443. **MAHILA LIBRARY** — The number of books circulated through the Mahila Library was 11,351 as against 11,882 and the number of readers was 520 as against 683 in the preceding year.

444. **CHILDREN'S LIBRARY AND PLAY ROOM** — The children's library and play room were visited by 31,636 readers as against 33,749 in the preceding year. The number of children who took books home and of the books read by them were 476 and 8,324 as against 476 and 6,918 respectively in the preceding year.

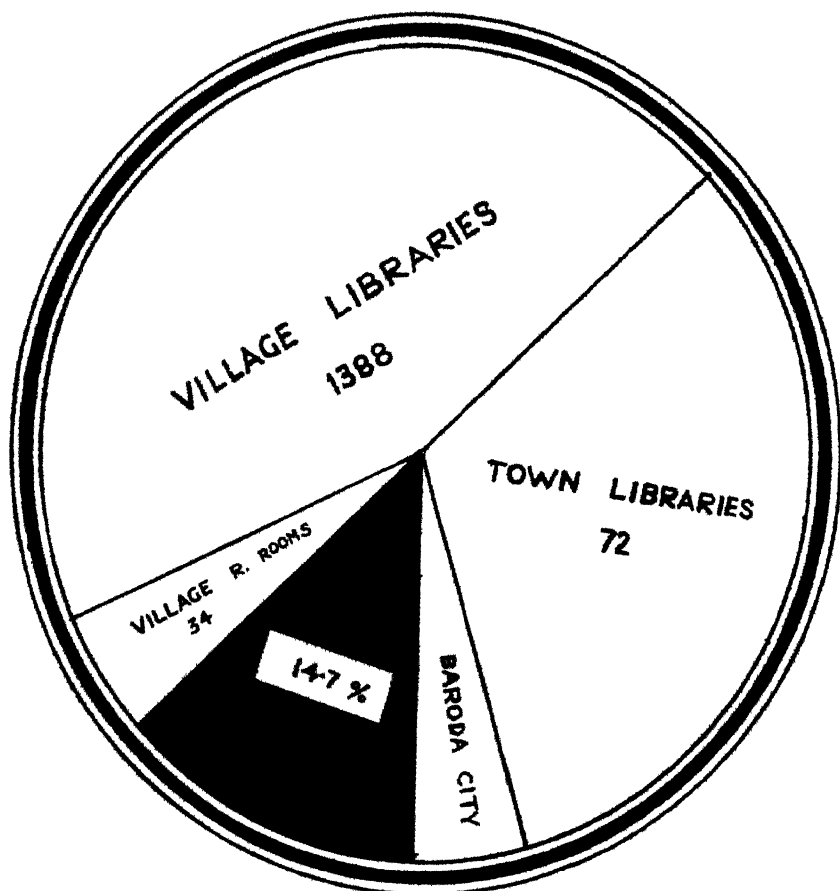
445. **REFERENCE LIBRARY** — About 60 readers used the reference library everyday.

446. **NEWSPAPER READING ROOM** — The newspaper reading room was open throughout the year. 230 periodicals were subscribed to and 59 were received as gifts.

447. **DISTRICT LIBRARIES** — The following table shows the number of libraries in the State:—

Year	District and town libraries	Village libraries	Mahila libraries	Children's libraries	Reading Rooms		Total
					Town	Village	
1945-46	72	1,388	21	13	5	32	1,531
1944-45	72	1,368	21	13	6	34	1,514
1943-44	69	1,348	21	13	4	51	1,506

POPULATION SERVED BY LIBRARIES & READING ROOMS.



POPULATION SERVED BY LIBRARIES				
	ss	NOT	ss	ss
TOTAL POPULATION				28,55,010.
ss	ss	SERVED		24,30,699. 85.3 %
ss	ss	NOT	ss	4,24,311. 14.7 %
TOWN	ss		ss	8,13,681. 100 %
VILLAGE	ss		ss	16,08,328. 61.2 %
ss	ss	NOT	ss	4,32,020. 16.8 %

Of these, 182 have their own buildings. 20 reading rooms were transformed into village libraries; out of which, 11 got an aid of Rs. 40 each as a gift from the Diamond Jubilee Fund.

448. **TRAVELLING LIBRARIES SECTION** — In the Travelling libraries section there were 30,410 books at the end of the year. The section circulated 11,969 books among 4,686 readers by sending 300 boxes. Over and above these, war bulletins and other important literature, obtained from different agencies as gift, were also sent to various town and village libraries of the State.

Efforts were continued to wean the village authorities from the habit of spending disproportionately large amounts on periodicals. The libraries were also served with the lists of up-to-date books in Gujarati, published during the year for their guidance at the time of framing budgets. The questions and difficulties of library workers were satisfactorily met at the meeting of the library workers held during the year. The people are keen on having their own buildings and they are depositing amounts required as public donations for library buildings.

449. **LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS** — A concomitant to the District Library movement is the State Library Association. The association assisted in inspecting libraries, organising training class and holding the Mahal Parishads. It gets an annual grant of Rs. 1,200.

Another off-shoot of the District Library Movement is the co-operative society—"The Pustakalaya Sahayak Sahakari Mandal" was established for the purpose of helping the libraries in getting books, periodicals and other requisites at reduced prices. It has a share capital of Rs. 50,000 and most of the reserve funds of the village libraries are invested with it. It publishes a monthly journal "Pustakalaya" for the guidance of libraries. Circulars and other departmental information are included in this periodical free of cost.

450. **EXPENDITURE** — The expenditure of the Library department amounted to Rs. 96,374 as against Rs. 91,471 in the previous year.

Physical Education and Scout Organisation

451. **COMPULSORY PHYSICAL EDUCATION** — Physical education is made compulsory in the whole State from the year 1940-41 and physical training according to the prescribed syllabus is imparted in all the schools of the State, by teachers specially trained for this purpose and by Gymnasium teachers.

To provide trained teachers under this scheme, training classes are conducted every year at various centres. Besides these, regular

physical training classes are conducted in the training schools for Men and Women and the S. T. T. College. All these classes during the year 1945-46 trained 234 teachers. Over and above these, 146 primary school teachers were trained at the P. T. classes held at various centres under the supervision and guidance of the Physical Director, thus carrying the total number of trained teachers to 4,601.

452. SCOUTING — The Scout Movement has been in existence for the last 27 years and is gaining support from the public day by day. During the year, there were 103 Troops and 506 Cub Packs with 17,044 scouts and cubs as against 15,790 in the preceding year.

The District Scout Head-quarters at Pattan and Navsari have their own buildings, fully equipped with all the necessary materials and they have been built with substantial donations from the public. At Orna in Kamrej Taluka, Navsari district, a Taluka Scout Head Quarters, first of its kind, has been erected with Rs. 3,000 as donation from the public.

In order to impart specialized training in Cubbing and in Scout Craft, two Cub Masters' Training Camps of Dabhoi and Amreli Taluka teachers and one Scout Masters' Training Camp of the teachers of Secondary schools of Amreli and Mehsana Districts were held. A District Scout Rally was held at Navsari and 8 troops participated in the rally. A rally of Baroda City Scouts and Guides was held under the Presidentship of Shrimant Yuvaraj Saheb to celebrate the Birth Day of the Chief Scout, His Highness the Maharaja Saheb. A Boy Scout Local Association at Navsari is established during the year under report and Rs. 1,000 is received as a donation for the local association.

The Girl Guide Movement was started in the year 1935-36. It has made a steady progress. During the year, the total number of guides and Blue birds was 2,626 as against 2,106 in the previous year. The Annual Training camp of the guides was held at Navsari Scout Head Quarters and 25 guides were given training in Blue Bird Cap-tains. The total amount spent after the girl guide movement was Rs. 1,423 as against Rs. 1,123 of the last year.

The total amount spent after the Baroda Boy Scout Organisation during the year under report was Rs. 24,248 as against Rs. 17,248 in the previous year.

Promotion and Preservation of Oriental Arts and Literature

453. ORIENTAL INSTITUTE — In the institute there were, 14,030 manuscripts and 13,708 printed books and 165 volumes were added during the year. There were 184 registered readers and 1,683 books were issued.

454. GAIKWAD'S ORIENTAL SERIES — In this series, 103 volumes have been published, 16 are in the press and 23 in different stages of preparation. The only publication of the year is the Index to the English translation of the Sabara Bhasya in three volumes, by Mahamahopadhyaya Dr. Umesh Mishra, Reader in Philosophy in the University of Allahabad. Great difficulties were experienced during the year in printing owing to scarcity of printing material and labour.

455. TRANSLATION BUREAU — The Translation Bureau prepares and publishes four different series. The first two—Shri Sayaji Sahityamala and the Balajnanamala—seek to make the treasures of other people accessible to Gujarati knowing public through translations and original compilations. For this purpose, Rs. 2 lakhs were endowed by His Highness the late Maharaja Sayaji Rao III. The Bureau has so far published 296 books in the Sahityamala and 186 in the Balajnanamala. In these two series, 3 books were published during the year. The third series, the Shree Sayaji Gramavikasmala was started in 1941 to make good the dearth of useful books in Gujarati dealing with problems of rural re-construction and village uplift. The cost of its publication is met from the Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund. The Gramavikasmala publications are distributed free to all village libraries. The fourth series, the Matusri Jamnabai Smarak Granth Mala deals with problems of women. It is published from the income of a fund dedicated to the memory of Matusri Jamnabai Saheb. In the Gramvikasmala, 8 and in the Matusri Jamnabai Granthmala 2 books have so far been published. Besides the above, three members of the staff, who are recognized by the University of Bombay as Post-graduate Teachers, conducted regular classes in the three subjects of Ancient Indian Culture, Sanskrit and Ardha-magadhi. There were altogether eleven students, nine for M. A. from the Baroda College and two for Ph. D. Several original research papers were also contributed to journals of learned societies.

456. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure of the Oriental Institute was Rs. 29,613 as against Rs. 36,715 in the previous year.

Museum and Picture Gallery

457. MUSEUM AND PICTURE GALLERY — Both the institutions were reorganised and their exhibits rearranged. The library was completed and opened to the public. During the year under report, Palaeontological Plastercasts and number of acquisitions were repaired, the Mineralogical Showcases relined and Arms collection systematically cleaned. Important exhibits have been acquired during the year including a set of Yaudheya Pottery, two early Indian terracottas, five small Mathura sculptures, a Jain Gujarati brass, four Nepalese Tantric Buddhist bronzes, three Nepalese Shaiva Wood sculptures, one South Indian Bronze, ivory box of queen Chand Bibi of Ahmednagar and

Bijapur, Miniatures (Mughal, Rajput, Jain, Maratha), one Gujarati Saktams, five Maratha figures, three modern Indian paintings, one Phoenician ivory sphinx, one Balinese Wood sculpture, one Persian Miniature and two large paintings by M. and S. Roerich.

458. VISITORS — The total number of visitors to the two institutions during the year was 3,67,014 as against 3,68,950 in the previous year.

459. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure was Rs. 66,096 as against Rs. 54,252 in the previous year.

Archaeological Department

460. CONSERVATION — During the year under report, conservation was proposed for (i) Sahasralinga Talao Excavation portion at Pattan, (ii) The Siva Temple at Asoda, (iii) Modhera Monuments, (iv) Malai Mata Temple, and (v) Satmukhi Vav at Dabhoi. The most fruitful of these was the Asoda temple. Out of Rs. 61,000 sanctioned by Government for the special conservation of the Sahasralinga Talao Excavation portion, Rs. 15,000 were sanctioned for the year under report.

461. EXCAVATION — The excavations at the Sahasralinga Talao were continued.

462. PUBLICATIONS — Memoir No. IV "Report on the Investigations into the Prehistoric Archaeology of Gujarat" by Dr. Sankalia was published during the year under report. Arrangements for editing Memoirs on Persian Inscriptions and Gaekwad Coinage are being made. The Director contributed two articles viz. (1) Seven Bronzes from the Baroda State Museum and (2) A rare Jaina Sculpture from the Baroda Museum, to the Baroda Museum Bulletin, and published a note on "Jain Ms. Writing and Preservation" on the occasion of the All-India Library Conference held at Baroda.

463. EXPENDITURE AND INCOME — The total expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 13,967 as against Rs. 13,285 and the income was Rs. 139 as against Rs. 167 in the last year.

Sanskrit Learning

464. RAJKEEYA SANSKRIT MAHAVIDYALAYA — In the year 1915, this institution was started for preparing Purohits, Puraniks, Pandits and Shastris to meet the requirements of the modern society. Since then advanced courses in several branches of Sanskrit learning have been organised. A number of scholarships are given at this institution. The institute had 23 classes with 129 students as against 24 classes with 145 students in the previous year. Out of 110 students that appeared at the annual examination, 65 came out successful giving a percentage

of 59.1. The total expenditure on this institution including district Sanskrit schools amounted to Rs. 13,539 as against Rs. 15,763 in the previous year.

465. DISTRICT SANSKRIT SCHOOLS — There are four Government Sanskrit Schools with 118 pupils, and five private Sanskrit schools with 127 pupils on rolls.

466. SHRAVANMAS DAKSHINA EXAMINATION — Diplomas and titles conferred upon the candidates in the Shravanmas Dakshina Examinations are valued all over India, and Pandits from distant places appear at these examinations. During the year, 92 candidates appeared, of which 72 passed as against 163 and 120 respectively in the previous year. Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 5,000 for awarding dakshinas to pandits passing the examinations, in different subjects.

Indian Music

467. MUSIC SCHOOLS — During the year under report, the institution had 17 classes, out of which 8 were for the training in vocal music and 9 for instrumental music. The number of students attending these classes was 262 as against 285 in the previous year.

Besides the College of Indian Music at Baroda, there were four district music schools with 265 pupils attending them. The subject of music is also taught in some of the principal girls' and boys' schools, kindergarten schools, and other special institutions.

The total expenditure on these institutions amounted to Rs. 13,235 as against Rs. 13,757 in the previous year.

The Ayurvedic Mahavidyalaya

468. THE AYURVEDIC MAHAVIDYALAYA — The Ujamsi Pitambar Ayurvedic Mahavidyalaya at Patan started in 1922, is conducted on grant-in-aid basis. It imparts instructions both theoretical and practical in Ayurveda, the course being of 5 years' duration. The students are taught botany, anatomy, physiology, surgery and midwifery etc., on modern lines. Practical training is given at the dispensary run by the institute and a ward for indoor patients is also maintained. At the end of the year under report, there were 71 students on roll. The total expenditure on this institution amounted to Rs. 24,072 as against Rs. 21,291 in the previous year.

CHAPTER XXVII

PUBLIC HEALTH

A. Medical relief

469. GENERAL — A programme for opening dispensaries in rural areas, so that no village may be more than five miles away from a dispensary was recently completed. For further development several measures have been adopted :

- (i) to increase the facilities now available for medical aid for women and children, a separate trust associated with the name of Her Highness Maharani Shantadevi has been created ;
- (ii) An anti-malaria scheme formulated in co-operation with the district local board of Navsari for opening dispensaries and centres for the worst affected areas has been sanctioned:
- (iii) another scheme for opening dispensaries with public assistance in all talukas, with less than four dispensaries, has been adopted;
- (iv) medical practitioners and vaidyas are offered subsidies to induce them to settle in villages and give medical assistance to the people of that and the surrounding villages.

470. MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS — There are in the State 129 medical institutions, hospitals and dispensaries, i. e. one for every 22,139 persons. Three new dispensaries, for which donations had been offered, were sanctioned—for Koyali in the Baroda district, Unava and Kahoda in the Mehsana district. Five other dispensaries and eleven centres attached to these are to be opened in the Navsari, Gandevi and Palsana talukas of the Navsari district under the anti-malaria scheme. The dispensary at Kalol is to be converted into a general hospital and maternity home, with twelve beds in each, for which a donation of a lakh of rupees was received. Subsidised ayurvedic dispensaries were started at Mota Ankadia in the Amreli district and Modhera in the Mehsana district. These measures, adopted during the year, will appreciably increase the medical facilities already available.

471.. PATIENTS AND DISEASES — The facilities available were fully availed of. There are 931 beds in the hospitals of the State. The

number of indoor patients was 18,530 as against 16,544 in the previous year and the daily average 685 as against 622. The number of outdoor patients increased from 10.1 lakhs to 11.2 lakhs; the average daily number increasing from 14,876 to 16,295. The number of surgical operations, major and minor, rose from 1,48,167 to 1,61,581. Besides this, the 5 subsidised ayurvedic dispensaries treated 87,503 patients during the year. The statistics of patients and diseases, for which they were treated, are given below :—

(000 omitted)

Disease	1945-46	1944-45	Disease	1945-46	1944-45
of the ear	251	192	Malaria	224	217
„ eye	53	71	Tuberculosis	3	2.3
„ throat	74	41	Dyspepsia	35	38
„ ear	43	54	Diarrhoea	30	28
„ nose	9	13	Venereal diseases	2	5

472. MEDICAL RELIEF FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN — The extension of medical relief for women and children has been receiving constant attention of government. With the establishment of the Shri Maharani Shantadevi Trust, all efforts in the direction have been co-ordinated and have received a new impetus.

The trust received grants from the Government and the Sayaji Rao III Memorial fund. Government sanctioned Rs. 3 lakhs a year for five years, which will go to form its reserve fund. The Memorial fund contributed Rs. 10,000. Government transferred to the Trust a sum of rupees four lakhs representing the amount accumulated under the Infant Marriage Act. It was also decided that the sum of rupees thirty thousand or such sum as may be collected under this Act shall be paid to the trust every year. The contributions to the Educational and Medical departments were also transferred to this trust. Shree Maharani Shantadevi Hospital for women and children was also extended and started as a separate Institution, during the year.

The trust since its foundation in 1939 has established 30 maternity homes with 179 beds. A ten bed Maternity Hospital, each at Karjan and Dabhoi, and a 3 bed Maternity Hospital at Nar started working during the year under report.

Of the 30 maternity homes working, 13 were in the Baroda district, 12 in the Mehsana district, 3 in the Anreli district and one each in the Navsari district and Okhamandal. The number of patients admitted was 3,312 as against 2,838 in the previous year; the number of ante-natal cases treated was 5,053 as against 6,048.

In the Baroda City, there are three maternity wards attached to Shree Sayaji General Hospital and one to the Jannabai dispensary.

A scheme for 32 new institutions is also under consideration.

The total number of patients at these wards during the year was 4,331 as against 4,106 and the percentage of deaths to deliveries was 0.5 as in the previous year.

Besides these maternity wards, there were 45 trained midwives. They attended 7,996 labour cases and 6,346 post-natal cases. The midwives, attached to various maternity homes, were also doing ante-natal and post-natal work. These dais are trained in the class maintained out of the Victoria Memorial Fund at the Jannabai dispensary. Fifty five dais were trained during the year.

473. SHREE SAYAJI STATE GENERAL HOSPITAL — The central medical institution of the State is the Shree Sayaji State General Hospital. It is fully equipped and has special departments for bacteriology, radiology, dentistry, eye and midwifery, each in charge of a specialist and a gynaecological and children's wards.

In the hospital, there are 326 beds. The average number of indoor patients per day was 306 as against an average of 297 in the previous year; the average number of outdoor patients per day was 1,233 as against an average of 766 in the previous year; the total daily attendance was thus 1,539. The number of major and minor operations performed was 2,089 and 54,904 respectively. In the X-ray department, 19,803 patients were treated, of whom 8,721 were indoor and 11,082 outdoor. The dental department treated 10,157 patients and, the eye department performed 548 major operations. In the bacteriological department, 21,966 specimens of pathological interest were examined and 6,823 injections given.

The total expenditure on the hospital was Rs. 3.61 lakhs—the same as in the previous year.

474. ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS MEASURES — Shree Padmavatidevi Tuberculosis Hospital and Sanatorium was opened by Her Highness the Maharani Shantadevi in 1943. It consists of a central administrative block with pathological laboratory, an x-ray room and an operation theatre. There is an open air theatre and avenues and sheltered walks have been laid. There are separate general wards, for men and women, and single and double room cottages. At present there is accommodation for 78 patients. A tuberculosis specialist has been appointed to be in charge.

During the year, 184 persons were admitted to the institution as against 158 in the previous year and 135 were discharged. Of those admitted, 0.85 per cent were in the first stage of the disease, 3.2 per cent in the second stage and 96 per cent in the third stage. Most of

the cases were of pulmonary tuberculosis. Besides this, 127 operations were performed.

The sanatorium and hospital receive a grant of Rs. 30,000 per year from the government, and over and above this, an annual grant of Rs. 3 lakhs has been sanctioned for the next five years. It also receives a contribution of Rs. 20,000 per year from Maharani Shantadevi Trust. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 1.78 lakhs as against Rs. 1.66 lakhs in the preceding year.

The anti-tuberculosis clinic opened in 1937 from the King George's Thanks Giving Fund, continued its useful work of propaganda and treatment. During the year, 898 new cases and contacts were examined and 601 home visits made.

475. OTHER INSTITUTIONS — The mental hospital had 108 patients as against 111 in the previous year.

The leper asylum treated 145 patients as against 148 in the previous year.

476. DISTRICT INSTITUTIONS — Excluding maternity homes, there are 115 medical institutions and dispensaries with 382 beds serving rural areas. The number of outdoor and indoor patients was 8,37,000 and 6,760 as against 9,60,000 and 7,100 in the previous year.

477. VILLAGE DISPENSARIES — In order that each village may have a stock of such medicines as are commonly used, a scheme was started in 1937-38 by which, with the help of contributions from the people and the government, village dispensaries may be started. The scheme has not progressed as satisfactorily as was expected but the number of such dispensaries has been increasing steadily.

478. ANTI-RABIC TREATMENT — The number of patients, who were given anti-rabic treatment at Baroda and at the three centres, opened at Patan, Navsari and Amreli during the previous year, was 1,045.

479. THE PATAN AYURVEDIC MAHAVIDYALAYA — This institution offers five years' course and awards diplomas in ayurvedic medicines. It teaches anatomy, physiology, botany etc. on modern lines and also gives clinical training in the dispensary attached to the institute. There were 71 students under training.

480. REGISTRATION OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS — During the year under report, 245 practitioners including doctors, vaidyas, hakims and others were registered as against 374 in the previous year.

481. INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY — During the year, new junior red cross groups were organised in schools, making a total of 432, with 10,712 members. Lectures on ambulance work, nursing, home hygiene, sanitation and care of the eye were delivered in the schools of the State.

482. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 13.92 lakhs and income Rs. 1.62 lakhs. This does not include the expenditure incurred from Maharani Shantadevi Trust.

B. Public health

483. SANITATION— Sanitation forms the principal function of municipalities in towns and of panchayats in villages. The municipalities are assisted by sanitary committees consisting of municipal members and others. The village panchayats are guided by the district sanitary inspectors. The sanitary commissioner exercises a general supervision.

Out of 42 municipal towns in the State, 13 have protected water supply works. The cost of these works amounted to Rs. 92.54 lakhs, of which the Government grant was Rs. 75.86 lakhs. The steps taken for improving village water supplies are described in the chapter on local self government.

Three towns in the State — Baroda, Navsari and Bhadran — have underground drainage systems. Most of the towns have adequate conservancy staff.

Sanitary surveys of all the important towns have been completed and programmes of improvements to be undertaken laid down.

Systematic steps are being taken to get manure heaps removed to a distance from village sites. In 70 villages, suitable sites were acquired for the purpose during the year.

484. KOSAMBA HEALTH UNIT — To study problems relating to village sanitation, to educate the people and to introduce improvements, health units have been constituted for the villages under the Kosamba and Karjan rural reconstruction centres. The Kosamba unit, which covers 30 villages, is under a sanitary officer. A lady sub-assistant surgeon attends to ante-natal and post-natal cases. Similar units are being started in other places as well.

485. BIRTHS AND DEATHS — The registration of births and deaths is compulsory. The following table shows the number of births and deaths in the State:—

Year	Number of		Per mille of population	
	births	deaths	births	deaths
1943-44	1,03,136	68,461	36.1	24.0
1944-45	97,294	70,320	34.1	24.6
1945-46	1,04,515	70,910	36.1	24.5

Out of 1,04,515 births, 54,651 were males and 49,864 females; of the 70,910 deaths, 37,291 were males and 33,619 females.

Although health conditions were not as good as in 1944-45, on account of malaria and the difficulty of obtaining quinine and other medicines, the ratio of births and deaths has steadily improved and is now 36.1 and 24.5 respectively.

486. **INFANT MORTALITY** — There were 14,970 deaths of infants under one year. The following table shows the ratio of infant mortality to 1,000 registered births in different parts of the State :—

	Number of deaths of children under one year		Per mille of births	
	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45
Baroda city	1,375	1,365	136.5	72.1
Baroda	4,326	1585	158.5	111.1
Mehsana	5,356	1227	122.7	111.1
Navsari	2,347	1311	131.1	125.7
Amreli	1,407	1838	183.8	190.2
Okhamandal... ..	150	1468	146.8	177.9

Baroda City recorded the highest and the Mehsana district the lowest infant mortality during the year.

487. **CAUSES OF DEATH** — The following statement shows the number of deaths from different causes :—

Disease	Number of deaths		Per mille of population	
	1945-46	1944-45	1945-46	1944-45
Fever	60,347	60,346	21.1	21.1
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...
Cholera	195	165	0.05	0.05
Small-pox	820	228	.2	.08
Measles	214	211	.07	.07
Dysentery and Diarrhoea ...	805	987	.2	.3
Cough	1,240	1,300	.4	.4
Pneumonia	356	420	.1	.1
Consumption	633	605	.2	.2
Typhoid	111	127	.3	.04
Influenza	49	76	.01	.02
Meningitis	5	16	.001	.005
Diphtheria	11	18	.003	.006
Injuries and accidents ...	385	407	.1	.1
Other causes	5,139	5,414	1.4	1.9
Total	70,310	70,320	24.5	24.6

The classification is not accurate as deaths from diseases with symptoms of fever are often registered under "fever" by the untrained registration staff.

488. VACCINATIONS — Vaccination before the child is 6 months old and re-vaccination at the age of eight years or at the time of registering the names of children in schools for the first time is compulsory in the State. During the year the number of primary vaccinations was 96,243 and of re-vaccination 1,07,176. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations was 97.2 and of re-vaccination 40.9. The high percentage of successful re-vaccinations shows the necessity of compulsory re-vaccination at the age of eight years.

The total expenditure on vaccination was Rs. 63,586 as against Rs. 55,394 in the preceding year. The average cost of each successful one was annas 6.75 as against annas 6.25 in the previous year.

489. PREVENTION OF DISEASES — Anti-malaria measures were taken in the city of Baroda, 13 other municipal towns and in 315 villages. The exceptionally heavy rains in Okhamandal brought in their wake a wide spread epidemic of malaria, to control which a special officer was appointed and intensive measures taken. Anti-malaria scheme for Amreli town is sanctioned. A survey of Zainabad in Attached Areas was completed with a view to organise scientifically the anti-malaria measures.

Anti-guinea-worm work was conducted in 102 villages of the Patan, Chanasma and Harij talukas of the Mehsana district, and in four villages of the Sankheda taluka of the Baroda district.

During the year, 211 fresh cases of tuberculosis were registered in the municipal towns, of which 161 cases were in Baroda city.

490. EPIDEMICS — The State was not free from plague this year. The destruction of rats was continued in Petlad, Gandevi, Okha and other towns which are liable to plague.

There was an epidemic of chorela in 51 villages of the State and 411 cases were reported, of which 195 were fatal. Measures to inoculate persons in the Affected Areas were promptly taken and 77,205 persons were inoculated.

Small pox cases were reported from all over the State, the number of cases reported being 1967, of which 820 were fatal. There were 256 deaths in the Baroda City.

Of the 139 cases of measles, 59 were fatal. These were reported from 7 towns of the Baroda, Mehsana, Navsari and Amreli districts. The proportion of deaths in Baroda city was extremely high—57 deaths out of 59 cases reported.

There was an epidemic of typhoid in Baroda city - 189 cases being reported, of which 44 were fatal. There were 163 cases in 9 other towns, 52 of which were fatal.

A few cases of meningitis and influenza were reported from different towns of the State. No cases or deaths of diphtheria and leprosy were registered.

491. PROPAGANDA — The department carried on propaganda with the help of cinema and magic lantern shows, lectures and exhibitions. Shows were held in 27 places and health and baby-weeks in ten.

There are sanitary associations, in Navsari, Amreli, Patan and Petlad. They carry on propaganda, offer medical assistance and give help to expectant mothers.

492. PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY — The main function of the laboratory is in connection with the administration of the Food and Drugs Act, which has been extended to the villages round about Baroda city to prevent adulteration of milk, ghee etc. and to several municipal towns. The laboratory examined 3,165 samples of milk and 365 of ghee, received from municipalities, private parties and the civil supplies department. Of these, 1968 samples of milk and 79 of ghee were found adulterated.

CHAPTER XXVIII

POST WAR RECONSTRUCTION

493. **POLICY COMMITTEES** — In the year 1943, the Government of Baroda, in common with other administrations in India, set up the following policy Committees to draft out plans for the post-war period :-

- (i) Agricultural Policy Committee;
- (ii) Communications Committee;
- (iii) Electric and Irrigation Committee;
- (iv) Telephone Development Committee;
- (v) Trade and Industries Committee; and
- (iv) Resettlement and Re-employment Committee.

494. **REPORTS OF THESE COMMITTEES** — The Agricultural Policy Committee have, besides Agriculture, dealt with allied subjects viz. Forest, Fisheries and Cooperation. The Communications Committee have dealt with the plans regarding construction of rails and roads and such other public works. Besides the above Committees, the department of Education and the Medical department have also drafted out plans concerning their respective departments. Consequently, reports on Post-war planning, concerning the following subjects, are now ready in a printed form:-

- (i) Agriculture (including Forest, Fisheries and Cooperation);
- (ii) Public Works;
- (iii) Railways;
- (iv) Irrigation;
- (v) Telephones;
- (vi) Education;
- (vii) Medical;
- (viii) Electric;
- (ix) Trade and Industries.

495. **CENTRAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE** — His Highness the Maharaja Sahib has been pleased to appoint a Central Coordinating Committee for Post-war Reconstruction. It is composed of 17 members, of whom 8 are officials and 9 non-officials. The non-official members include members from the Dhara Sabha, prominent

industrialists and the like. It will scrutinize and coordinate the plans recommended by the Policy Committee. This Committee is likely to meet very shortly, now that the reports of the various policy Committees are ready. These reports have been circulated among members inviting their suggestions, if any.

496. **WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE** — A Ways and Means Committee has also been appointed. This is a small committee consisting of the following members:—

President

1. The Hon'ble Member for Post-war Reconstruction.

Members

2. The Sar Suba;
3. The Accountant General;
4. The Director of Statistics (Convener).

The function of this Committee is to suggest Ways and Means (mainly financial) for the effective execution of the post-war plans. This Committee had two sittings. Their recommendations are under consideration of Government.

497. **CREATION OF A SECRETARIAT** — To expedite the working in connection with Post-war reconstruction, His Highness the Maharaja Sahab was pleased to sanction a small Secretariat and this office is functioning from April 1946. Under the above Order, the establishment of the Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund Office has now been amalgamated with the Post-war Reconstruction Secretariat.

498. **INDUSTRIAL PANELS** — For Industrial development, the Government of India have constituted an Industrial Panel Board at New Delhi. During the year, the Director of Industries and the Industrial Chemist (Dr. C. S. Patel) were deputed to represent Baroda on Panel meetings regarding Glass, Leather, Chemical Drugs and Paper-pulp, Chemical Cotton and Wool respectively.

499. **TENTATIVE PROGRAMMES** — The reports, drafted by the various Policy Committees and the departments, dealt with programmes which still await their approval by the Central Coordinating Committee and their final acceptance by Government.

500. **FINANCIAL ASPECTS** — The total cost towards these programmes, as envisaged by the various Policy Committees and departments, is estimated at over Rs. 25 crores. However, there is every likelihood of curtailment in these estimates, when these programmes are scrutinized by the Central Coordinating Committee, and it is expected that at least an expenditure between Rs. 12 and 15 crores will have to be provided, to cover ten years' period towards these programmes.

CHAPTER XXIX

MISCELLANEOUS

(i) Religious and charitable Institutions

501. INSTITUTIONS UNDER GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT — There were 50 institutions under direct government management as in the previous year. The local revenue officers managed these, except Kedareshwar khichadi and Gyarmi karakhana, which distribute alms to Hindu and Muslim destitutes in the Baroda city. These two institutions are directly under the control of the department. The properties of institutions under government management were valued at Rs. 22.12 lakhs, and the expenditure was Rs. 0.79 lakh.

Two funds have been constituted for the benefit of these institutions : (i) the general fund and (ii) the reserve fund. The general fund is created out of the net savings of the institutions and is intended for religious and charitable objects of public utility. The fund decreased during the year from Rs. 7.49 lakhs to Rs. 7.32 lakhs, as unusually heavy expenditure was incurred on repairs of temples (Rs. 34,000) and on dearness allowance (Rs. 14,750). In addition to this, Rs. 42,000 were spent in giving grants to institutions doing useful public work. The more important of these grants were :

Rs. 12,000 to dispensaries in the Mehsana district.

Rs. 5,800 to Rajkiya Sanskrit Pathshala at Baroda.

Rs. 3,000 to the Patan Ayurvedic Mahavidyalaya.

The reserve fund is intended to meet extraordinary expenditure, such as extensive repairs to buildings etc. All institutions contribute rateably to this fund. The total contributions to the fund during the year amounted to Rs. 0.09 lakh and the balance at the close of the year was Rs. 0.13 lakh.

502. GRANT-IN-AID INSTITUTIONS — The State exercises general supervision over religious and charitable institutions under private management receiving grants from government. Institutions with an annual income of Rs. 200 or more are required to get their quinquennial budgets sanctioned by government.

There were 3,815 such institutions—3,269 for Hindus and 546 for Muslims. The total grant to these institutions in the form of inami lands, villages and cash payments amounted to Rs. 1.42 lakhs.

503. INSTITUTIONS FOR RELIEF OF THE POOR ETC. — There are 19 institutions for the relief of the poor, one orphanage, two schools for the deaf and dumb, and one leper asylum, all maintained by government.

504. RELIGIOUS PREACHERS — Six itinerant religious preachers worked during the year at Amreli, Bechraji, Sidhpur, Kadi, Patan, and Chandod. They delivered simple lectures on the fundamental principles of religion and on the evils of untouchability.

(ii) Administration of wakfs (Muslim trusts)

505. WAKF ACT — The Wakf Act modelled on the lines of the Bengal Wakf Act of 1934 has been in force since 1942. It provides for a wakf Commissioner and a board, consisting of ten members to assist and advise him. During the year under report, the head of the Deosthan department acted as the Wakf Commissioner. The function of the Commissioner and the board is to scrutinise the income and expenditure of the different wakfs and to prevent misuse of wakf properties. All wakfs are required to be registered and to submit to the Commissioner a complete statement of their properties, income and expenditure and their annual financial statements. On the enactment of this law, a survey of all wakfs was undertaken through the revenue officers. As a result, 890 wakfs have so far been registered. The value of their properties was estimated at Rs. 50.22 lakhs and their annual income at Rs. 2.77 lakhs.

(iii) Estates under management

506. ESTATES UNDER MANAGEMENT — The number of estates under managements was 356 as against 367 in the previous year. Of these, 78 were under the Guardian and Wards Act, 7 to secure government loans, 9 for the recovery of arrears of land revenue, 9 to protect government shares, 10 on account of disputes among holders, 163 owing to mismanagement of temples and 80 for the other reasons.

Of the total number of estates under management, 26 estates have been under attachment for less than one year, 101 for one to five years, 108 for more than five years, 63 for more than ten years and 58 for more than fifteen years.

The total demand of these estates was Rs. 6.33 lakhs, of which Rs. 2.3 lakhs were arrears. The total collection was Rs. 4.01 lakhs and the arrears at the end of the year were Rs. 2.32 lakhs.

(iv) Court of wards

Under the law relating to wards, the head of the department is authorised to assume control over estates of minors and others, who are physically or mentally unable to manage them.

During the year, the number of estates under the court of wards increased from 77 to 78; estates of 7 wards have been taken under management and of 6 released. The value of the properties managed was Rs. 41.41 lakhs. Their income and expenditure was Rs. 2.15 lakhs and Rs. 1.80 lakhs respectively. The demand for the year amounted to Rs. 2.15 lakhs, of which Rs. 2.00 lakhs were realised and Rs. 0.15 lakh remained in arrears.

The debts due to the estates amounted to Rs. 3.17 lakhs, and the debts owed by the estates amounted to Rs. 1.07 lakhs. The savings effected in favour of the estates was Rs. 8.44 lakhs as against Rs. 8.22 lakhs in the preceding year. These are invested in approved securities.

Fifty eight wards were receiving education, 29 in primary schools and 29 in secondary schools, while the remaining 32 wards were either too young or unfit for study.

A graduated rate of supervision charges, rising from 2 to 5 per cent varying with the income, is at present levied.

(v) Public Press and Publications

507. PRINTING PRESSES — The number of printing presses at the beginning of the year was 88. 6 new presses were started and 4 were closed. There were thus 90 presses actually working at the end of the year.

508. OUTPUT OF THE PRESS — The total literary output of the Press was 3 dailies, 2 bi-weeklies, 5 weeklies, 41 periodicals and 102 books including pamphlets.

The leading news-papers published in the State were: the Sayaji Vijaya, the Nava Gujarat, the Prajamandal, the Jaya Gujarat and the Rajhuns in Gujarati and the Jagriti in Marathi.

509. PERIODICALS AND THEIR NATURE — The periodicals are classified below :-

Subject					Number
General literature	...	...	...	...	9
Religion	...	...	...	...	5
Law	...	...	...	...	4
Physical culture	...	...	...	...	5
Communal	...	...	...	...	11
Education	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	6
Total					41

510. BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS — 102 books and pamphlets were published during the year under report. They are classified below :—

According to Language

Language	Number
English	16
Gujarati	77
Marathi	5
Pali-English	1
Hindi	3
Total	102

According to subject matter

Subject	No.	Subject	No.
Politics	7	Drama	6
Education	10	History	5
Poetry	9	Medicine	2
Novel-Fiction	27	Literature	1
Biography	7	Travel description... ..	3
		Miscellaneous	25
Total	102		

(vi) Government Press and Stationery

511. THE PRESS — All printing work for the State and the State railways and the printing all vernacular text books was done in the State Press. The press also supplies all stationery to government departments.

The total earnings of the Press, were Rs. 2.94 lakhs as against Rs. 3.15 lakhs in the previous year.

The press employed 235 men, as in the preceding year. The monthly wages bill was Rs. 7,463 as against Rs. 6,184 and supervision charges Rs. 2,835 as against Rs. 3,116 per month in the previous year.

During the year under report, the foundry cast 5,780 lbs. of type etc. as against 3,735 lbs. in the previous year.

Stationery articles of the total value of Rs. 1.99 were supplied to all the Government offices.

(vii) The Raj Daftardar

512. THE RECORD ROOM — The number of daftars at the end of the year was 42,152. 1,285 requisitions for references from other offices and 410 applications for copies from the public were attended to.

513. INSPECTION BRANCH — The records of 110 offices were inspected by the Inspection branch in the Baroda and Amreli districts and the Bombay palaces.

514. OTHER ACTIVITIES — Other activities were: Historical research; overhauling the old records of the Barkhali and taluka offices; a class for training candidates in record-keeping; carrying through press the revised edition of the State Gazetteer &c.

(viii) The Information Bureau

515. THE BUREAU — The bureau issued press notes giving information about important measures taken by government and a monthly bulletin — the Prakashan Patrika — in Gujarati for circulation specially in rural areas.

The bureau has organised a press room, which is kept well supplied with periodicals and books of reference. The Information officer acts as the press advisor for the city. The bureau submits to government important articles and items of news collected from all English and Vernacular newspapers.

Summary

1. WAR EFFORT — His Highness' Government continued to give their fullest co-operation in the prosecution of the War. The Baroda squadron of the R. A. F. maintained its high record of achievement during the closing period of the War. The Second Baroda Infantry and the Mechanical Transport Section remained on active service. The Infantry returned to Baroda in February 1946 after rendering meritorious services at the front.

His Highness the Maharaja Sahib donated £ 500 for Christmas and New Year gifts to the members of the Baroda Squadron. The State War gifts fund stood at Rs. 2.57 lakhs. The State investments in the 3 per cent Defence loans and interest-free bonds came to Rs. 176.18 lakhs and Rs. 25 lakhs respectively. The State's contribution to the War purposes fund amounted to Rs. 24.38 lakhs.

2. ATTACHED AREAS — "The firm establishment of conditions in which these areas will secure and enjoy full opportunity for progress and development" is the object underlying the new relationship between the State and the 252 states, talukas and estates now attached to it. The Baroda Government's pledge to spare no effort in its relation is being fully carried out. The administration of the areas has been reorganised and the social services of the State are being extended to these areas. Twenty-eight new, primary and secondary schools were opened and compulsory education was extended to some more areas having schools; the training of teachers and inspectors, and the extension of physical education and scout movement encouraged, and the library movement introduced. There are now 339 primary schools with 20,796 children and 15 middle schools, 21 composite schools and 10 English classes with 2,426 boys and 96 girls. There were 25 libraries supported by private enterprise. A number of public works, roads, protected water supply works, schools and government buildings were constructed.

His Highness has created a special trust yielding Rs. 0.50 lakh and a grant of Rs. 0.50 lakh is given from the Diamond Jubilee Trust for rural development. Village works, wells, tanks etc., which were sanctioned in the previous year and during the year under report, were completed or were in progress. Subsidies were given to village panchayats.

3. CIVIL SUPPLIES — The following measures were taken by the Government to meet the difficulties created by the war :—

(a) *Grow More Food Campaign*: Since the beginning of 1942, the Government have been taking measures, some obligatory and others concessional, to induce agriculturists to grow more food crops instead of commercial crops.

(b) *Procurement of food grains*: During the year under report, due to the infrequency of rains, khariff crops like rice and bajri failed. To meet this deficit, the State lifted 9,500 tons (rice 2,250 and wheat 7,250) of the quota allotted by the India Government under the basic plan. On the other hand the State was surplus in juwar and pulses and an export quota was allotted. The actual export during the year totalled about 9,451 tons: 4,975 tons and 4,476 tons of jowar and pulses respectively.

(c) *Distribution organisation*: For the distribution of food grains and sugar, rationing is introduced in the Baroda city. The city is divided into five wards, each under the charge of a ward officer. These ward officers are given the staff of inspectors and clerks. A lady inspector is also appointed to inspect the cards of pardanashin ladies.

Food grains are distributed through cheap grain shops, ration shops and co-operative societies. Ration shops are given to authorised retail distributors.

In the districts, Government controlled and Government aided agencies run cheap grain and fair price shops. There were 254 cheap grain and fair price shops working — 212 of these were organised with and received assistance from the further donation of Rs. 2.27 lakhs graciously donated by His Highness the Maharaja Sahab over and above the sum of Rs. 10.5 lakhs previously given for the relief of his subjects. These supplied 16.76 lakhs maunds of grain worth Rs. 118.84 lakhs to 11.60 lakhs of people.

The Government continued participation in the Government of India scheme of standard cloth. The quotas of sugar, gur, kerosene, crude oil and petrol were distributed under varying degrees of control, sugar, petrol and kerosene being completely rationed.

4. SEASON — The general condition of the people was satisfactory. The rainfall was comparatively heavy in all the districts, and Okhamandal, generally an exception to this, had an unprecedented rainfall of 47.17 inches. This spoiled the kharif crops.

5. BUDGET — The budget estimates of the year provided for revenue of Rs. 404.00 lakhs and an expenditure of Rs. 403.70 lakhs leaving a surplus of Rs. 0.30 lakh. The year, however, proved better than anticipated. The actual receipts and expenditure were

Rs. 450.74 lakhs and Rs. 379.29 lakhs respectively. The year closed with a surplus of Rs. 71.45 lakhs.

The receipts from land revenue amounted to Rs. 101.87 lakhs, of which Rs. 6.80 lakhs were transferred to the Land Revenue Equalisation Fund which stood at Rs. 96.98 lakhs at the end of the year. Rs. 12.0 lakhs were set apart for post war reconstruction.

The net assets of the State at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 1,374 lakhs. Of these, Rs. 591 lakhs represent capital invested in Railways, Rs. 42 lakhs in Electric Works and Rs. 51 lakhs in Okha and other ports. The liquid assets amount to Rs. 953 lakhs.

6. LEGISLATION — A number of Acts and amendments were passed. The sale tax act was the important act passed.

7. JUSTICE — In district civil courts, the duration of ordinary suits decreased from 726 to 708 days. The average duration of suits in munsiffs' courts and small causes suits has also gone down: from 187 to 178 in the munsiffs' courts and from 70 to 65 in the small causes suits.

There was an appreciable improvement in the disposal of second appeals in the high court, the duration decreasing from 220 to 190 days; first appeals duration increased from 190 to 198 days.

In the high court, on the criminal side, the duration of first appeals was 68 days as against 137 in the previous year, of second appeals 20 days as against 32, and of acquittal appeals 41 days as against 87. In sessions courts, the duration of sessions cases rose from 73 to 92 days and of criminal appeals it decreased from 55 to 18 days. In magistrates' courts, inspite, of the marked decrease in the number of cases on file, the duration of cases was the same as in the year 1943-44 days.

8. LAW AND ORDER — Peace and order continued to prevail in the State and there were no serious breaches of the peace, though in some cases precautionary measures had to be taken. There was increase in the volume of crime. The total number of cognisable offences reported was 3,887 as against 3471 in the previous year.

9. SOCIAL LEGISLATION — The social legislation in the State represents the accepted policy of the government that in social matters the statute book must reflect the highest ideals of the race. The more important of the laws in force in the State are :—

Child Marriage Prevention Act;
Hindu Divorce Act;
Hindu women's property legislation;
Hindu Monogamy Act;
The Caste Tyranny Removal Act;
The Social Disabilities Removal Act;

A study of the operation of these laws over a long period brings into relief, both the difficulties of social legislation when not adequately supported by public opinion and its influence in moulding and educating public conscience. Their working is reviewed in the chapter on social and economic legislation.

The effect of the Child Marriage Prevention Act has been that while before 1920 and even 1930 a third of the marriages in the State were below the prescribed limit, now, under a higher marriageable age, only about one-tenth of the marriages come within penalised age limits. The effect on the civil condition of society is also marked — during the last forty years; the average age of marriage has risen by five years. The number of cases under the Divorce Act does not show any marked increase. The number of prosecutions under the Caste Tyranny Removal Act was small and of these none succeeded. People are generally reluctant to take the risk of embittered relations with the leaders of the caste which a prosecution or even giving evidence involves. Independently of the result of the cases filed in the courts, the existence of the Act has proved to be a salutary check on the arbitrary exercise of the powers of excommunication. Hindu women are now asserting the enlarged rights given to them by the amendments in the Acts relating to Hindu law enacted in 1933. Generally among the higher castes, these rights are conceded as women's property rights have always been more extensive in this part of India than elsewhere. Among the lower classes, however, men are less willing to accept the change, and the women are not yet conscious of their rights.

10. ECONOMIC LEGISLATION — The economic legislation in the State is reviewed on pages 104–105 of the report. This legislation falls under three classes — (i) tenancy, (ii) debt and (iii) protection of backward classes. The tenancy legislation — the law regulating the relations between Ankadia holders and their tenants and the law for the fixation of rents in the backward areas — has had beneficial results. The latter Act has been specially useful as it has secured a substantial scaling down of rents and the advantage of permanency of tenure to cultivating agriculturists of the Raniparaj class.

It is largely due to this, that relations between the parties have steadily improved since the introduction of the Act. This improvement is reflected in the average number of cases filed during the last three years compared to the average for the first three years of the Act, 1934–37. Suits for ejectment have fallen from 350 to 216, for fixing of rent from 976 to 188 and for recovery of arrears from 900 to 270.

Two measures constitute the legislation in protection of the interests of agricultural debtors. The Debt Conciliation Act is now in operation in 22 talukas. These boards dealt with 61 cases involving an aggregate of Rs. 0.86 lakh.

The number of cases and the amount of the debt involved are meagre when compared to the magnitude of rural indebtedness. Moreover, in spite of the extension in the area and the scope of the Act and the facilities offered by its link with land mortgage banks, the number of persons who have taken advantage of the Act has been decreasing progressively: the number of applications during each year since 1941-42 was 333, 272, 148, 173, and 64. During the last 5 years, there has been a wide spread movement to sell land and settle debts, as indicated by the increase in the number of documents registered; yet debtors have not been tempted to seek the assistance of the conciliation boards. The second law, the Agriculturist Debt Regulation Act, was intended to give relief to agriculturists from the effects of the fall in prices of agricultural produce and has been freely availed of by agriculturists of all classes. The legislation for the protection of backward classes is designed to save the Raniparaj and other backward classes from being ousted from their lands by money lenders.

11. SHREE SAYAJIRAO III DIAMOND JUBILEE TRUST — The notable part played by the Diamond Jubilee Trust in rural reconstruction is described in chapter XIII.

The Shree Sayajirao III Diamond Jubilee Trust was created by His Highness the late Maharaja Sayajirao III by a personal gift of one crore of rupees. The income from this fund is utilised for supplementing the efforts of the government to improve village life in all its aspects — economic, social and cultural.

A long-term programme has been adopted and grouped under three heads :—

- (a) Works of public utility in individual villages;
- (b) schemes for backward areas and classes; and
- (c) head-quarter schemes, benefiting large areas or sections of rural population.

The expenditure on village works was Rs. 2.24 lakhs, on schemes for backward areas Rs. 0.50 lakh and on head-quarter schemes Rs. 0.43 lakh during the year.

12. SHREE SAYAJIRAO III MEMORIAL FUND — To perpetuate the memory of His Highness the late Maharaja Sayajirao III, a sum of rupees one crore was endowed by His Highness the Maharaja on the occasion of his accession to the throne. The fund is intended to finance schemes benefiting all sections of the people without any distinction of caste or creed. The income of this fund is Rs. 3.50 lakhs a year.

The utilisation of this fund awaits the cessation of hostilities. Funds are being accumulated from this trust for an engineering college in mechanical and electrical engineering to be opened after the war and for an institute for training in B. Sc. (Tech). in weaving technology. Four schemes, however, have been so far sanctioned.

- (i) An annual endowment of Rs. 21,000 has been made to the Benares Hindu University for establishing a chair to be called "The Sayajirao Chair of Indian Culture and Civilization" and for three fellowships attached to it.
- (ii) A grant of Rs. 10,000 a year has been made to Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust for medical aid to women and children of the State.
- (iii) Rs. 30,000 a year is earmarked for awarding scholarships to the sons of sardars, assamdars and the like for secondary and higher education.
- (iv) Scholarships for textile chemistry and chemical engineering, available to B. Sc. students, have also been instituted.

13. DIAMOND JUBILEE PEOPLE'S VILLAGE UPLIFT FUND — The total fund amounts to Rs. 7.59 lakhs. The yearly income of interest on this fund is Rs. 27,000. The income is utilised for awarding scholarships to agriculturists for obtaining practical instruction in agriculture, horticulture and subsidiary occupations like leather tanning, paper making, tailoring, etc. A substantial amount is spent each year for encouraging khaddar industry.

14. AGRICULTURE — The activities of the agriculture department continued to expand. Investigations of diseases in crops including cotton root-rot were carried out and the agricultural chemist investigated problems relating to soil and water of different parts of the State. Separate farms have been established for each of the distinctive agricultural tracts of the State for dealing with the specific problems of each area and introducing crops best suited to the soil, climate and conditions of the area and helping to provide pedigree seeds, manure and modern implements to agriculturists. Important schemes of research are in progress in co-operation with the Indian Central Cotton Committee and the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, in addition to schemes undertaken by the State itself.

Propaganda : The crux of the problem in agriculture is to link the work of the experimental farms with the villages, to make the agriculturist adopt the varieties, methods of farming and collection of manure etc., which after numerous experiments and field trials have been found to be the best suited to the tract. A solution of this problem is attempted on a comprehensive plan which includes,

(i) intensive work units, (ii) agricultural education, (iii) tours and exhibitions and (iv) rural reconstruction centres.

Intensive work units : This is the important and wide-spread section of agricultural propaganda. Areas selected for intensive work are divided into units of about twenty villages and each unit again divided into three or four sub-units. A unit is under an overseer, and a sub-unit under a kamgar assisted by fieldsmen, all trained on government farms. The kamgars carry out selected experiments in fields of agriculturists as an object lesson to the villagers, besides distributing improved seeds and implements and showing improved methods of collecting manure. In this work, they are assisted more and more by the better farming societies, which have been established in the villages of these units.

In the areas outside the intensive zones, assistants tour with itinerant carts according to settled programmes. They teach the cultivators the best methods of collecting and preserving manure and distribute improved seeds and implements at concession price.

The third means of propaganda is conducted tours, agricultural shows, exhibitions and demonstrations. During the year, leading agriculturists, interested in agricultural progress and research, were taken to the institutions of the department at government expense.

15. RURAL RECONSTRUCTION CENTRES — Their aim is to develop in the people living in villages, a desire for a higher standard of living "the will to live better", and to bring into existence in the area enthusiastic workers with qualities of leadership, who can eventually take over, maintain and develop the work of the centre. This object is achieved by establishing in every village of the centre a co-operative society, whose aim is to effect improvement in all aspects of rural life and whose functions comprise all objects of utility to village. When such societies have been established in all the villages, a union will be formed which will be entrusted the task of continuing the work of the centre.

16. DEODRADA AND THE DABHOI SCHOOLS — Similar in aims to the reconstruction centres are the Thakarda boarding school of Deodrada and the Dabhoi agricultural school meant for the backward classes, both financed from the Diamond Jubilee Trust.

The schools aim primarily at three things, viz.

- (i) to teach good agriculture;
- (ii) to instil among the boys the will to live better; and
- (iii) to train up leaders;

so that, when the boys go back to their villages, they may make good cultivators and good members of their community.

Both the schools have extensive farms attached to them. The accommodation at both Deodrada and at Dahhoi is for 100 boys. In the year under report, however, the number of boys was 24 and 48 respectively.

17. EFFECTS OF PROPAGANDA — The effects of this propaganda are indicated by the increase in the use of modern implements, fertilizers, improved seeds and manure during the last 10 years. The use of fertilizers has increased from 120 thousand to 6,770 thousand pounds, the manure made by agriculturists from 620 thousand to 16,200 thousand pounds and the use of pedigree seeds from 460 thousand to 5,000 thousand pounds.

As indicated by these figures of purchases from the department, the use of pedigree seeds has increased 11 times, of fertilizers 60 times and the making of urine earth and compost manure has trebled.

18. SOIL CONSERVATION — To educate the people to the serious improvement of the soil caused by erosion and to discover the best method of checking it, the government have established two experimental and propaganda centres: at Hirpura and at Dhari. The work has now been in progress for 5 years with encouraging progress.

19. INDUSTRIES — All the major industrial establishment continued to expand under the impetus of the war. There were 18 cotton textile mills working. Their capital increased by Rs. 134 lakhs to Rs. 878 lakhs and the number of persons employed decreased from 25,026 to 24,888. The Dinesh Woollen Mills manufactured 3.96 lakhs of yards of woollen cloth valued at Rs. 17.78 lakhs.

There are now 3 large chemical concerns in the State — The Tata Chemicals, the Alembics and the Sarabhai Chemical Works. The Tata Chemicals manufactured salt and heavy chemicals but their full plant has not started work. The Alembics manufactured pharmaceutical drugs and fine chemicals. They increased their capital from Rs. 20 lakhs to Rs. 52.58 lakhs and have largely expanded their plant and productive capacity. Their new research laboratories costing Rs. 10 lakhs are almost completed. The Sarabhai Chemical Works have been established with a capital of Rs. 50 lakhs for the manufacture of fine chemicals. They have completed the erection of their plant and begun producing fine chemicals and other medicinal and pharmaceutical products.

Besides these, there are 5 other smaller plants manufacturing acids, spirits and pharmaceutical drugs.

The other industries which deserve mention is the pottery and glass works. There are now 3 concerns—the Baroda Potteries Ltd, the Baroda Crystal Glass Works and the Alembic Glass Industries.

Financial assistance in the form of loans or investment in share capital was given to a number of small and large concerns.

20. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY — Sir Cyril Fox, lately Director, geological survey of India, was invited by the government to carry out a survey of the geological and hydro-electrical resources of the State.

21. COTTAGE INDUSTRIES — Training in cottage industries is given in the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute at Baroda. The Institute also attempts to revive old and well-known industries as Visnagar metal work and Sankheda lacquer work. For rural areas a large number of demonstration classes have been organised in different centres in which weaving, spinning, calico-printing, lacquer-work and improved methods of tanning are taught. The government gives grants-in-aid to institutions and loans without interest to individuals, to enable them to provide themselves with the equipment necessary for starting or developing cottage industries. Agriculturists were also trained in subsidiary occupations in all the farms at Kosamba and Karjan centres.

22. OKHA PORT — The trade at Port Okha suffered because of the conditions prevailing due to the war. The customs revenue came to Rs. 37 lakhs. The capital expenditure incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 0.92 lakh bringing the total capital cost of the port to Rs. 52.64 lakhs.

23. TELEPHONES — The working of the telephone exchanges in the State was satisfactory. The net earnings came to 12 per cent on the capital investment as compared with 10 per cent in the previous year.

Automatic telephone systems were in operation at Navsari, Billimora, Petlad, Dabhoi, Kalol and Mehsana. All these have been connected or are in progress of being connected with the trunk telephone system.

24. FORESTS — A cautious policy directed towards conserving and exploiting the forests has been adopted. Plans for silviculture, research, management of forests and utilisation of their produce have been carefully revised and modified according to the recommendations of the forest expert engaged from the Government of Bombay in 1938-39.

The total area exploited was 22353 bighas as against 16,026 bighas in the preceding year, but the timber extracted was 758,000 cubic feet as against 722,000 cubic feet, and the fuel 10,58,000 cubic feet as against 16,40,000 cubic feet in the preceding year. The average realisation per bigha declined from Rs. 70-14-0 to Rs. 52-9-3. The minor forest products are exploited on a system of farming and license. The total value of such produce sold was Rs. 2.07 lakhs as

compared with Rs. 2.03 lakhs in the preceding year. The total revenue was Rs. 15.02 lakhs.

25. **FISHERIES** — The Government's efforts to develop these consist mainly of (i) introducing improved methods of catching, preserving and marketing, (ii) starting new fish industries, such as shark liver oil and fish industries, (iii) increasing and regulating the supply by erecting fish farms and hatcheries. Besides this, systematic surveys of the numerous rivers and tanks of the State are being undertaken and those found suitable are stocked with imported food fish in various kinds.

26. **LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT** — The total income of the four Local Boards was Rs. 10.16 lakhs and the expenditure Rs. 11.44 lakhs. The paucity of the means at the disposal of the District Local boards severely limits their capacity to assist in the rural development. The boards' responsibility is mainly confined to feeder roads and village water supply but in providing even these requirements the progress is very slow. Government have from time to time augmented their resources, to expedite the programme. In 1939, for instance, government relieved them of their contribution towards education thus adding Rs. 3.25 lakhs to their resources.

Feeder roads : To connect as many villages as possible with the railway system, with which Baroda is well served, a programme of feeder roads was sanctioned in 1928-29. The number of roads subsequently expanded a little was 159 with a length of about 479 miles. Of these, 138 roads covering a length of about 416 miles have been constructed. The expenditure incurred upto the end of the year was Rs. 12.41 lakhs, of which Rs. 5.52 lakhs were contributed by the government.

Village protected water supply : After the completion of 459 village wells, the different District Local Boards have undertaken a new triennial programmes. In Baroda district, out of 57 wells on programme, 49 were completed and 8 were in progress. In Mehsana district, out of 112 wells on programme, 32 wells were completed and 80 were in progress. In Navsari district, 55 wells were completed.

Anti Malaria Campaign : Anti malaria campaign was carried on by Baroda, Mehsana, Navsari, Amreli and Okhamandal Prant Panchayats. Campaigns for the eradication of guinea worms were in progress in the Sankheda, Chanasma and Harij talukas. These schemes were entirely financed by the Government.

27. **CO-OPERATION** — The main features of this development are :—

(i) *The reconditioning of weak societies :* A thorough inquiry is made into the financial condition of societies, which have failed to repay their loans to central banks. The debts of societies which were

solvant and gave hopes of improvement were sealed down. Societies, in which reconstruction was not likely to be successful, were carried into liquidation.

(ii) Introduction of controlled credit system under which loans advanced are for agricultural operation and are limited to a proportion of the value of the produce calculated according to the fixed rates on the cultivated area.

(iii) Insistence on the reality of the movement in respect of future expansion: Nine rural credit societies are registered, only when the need is clearly established and they have succeeded in enlisting the cooperation of desinterested workers.

(iv) Extension of cooperation to non-credit work, the sale of cotton, paddy vegetables etc. The magnitude of the work done by the co-operative societies in procurement and distribution of food, cloth and other necessities of life can be judged from the fact that during the year 302 societies supplied goods worth Rs. 140 lakhs to a major portion of the population of the State.

(v) Education in Co-operative methods and auditing: The Central Co-operative Institute regularly holds classes at Baroda and taluka centres for training secretaries in principles of co-operation, rural economics and accounts.

28. PRIMARY EDUCATION — Among the development activities, generally mass education occupies a leading space. As in the previous years the working of the compulsory system of education was closely watched and steady efforts were made to remove defects. Important measures were taken to reduce stagnation and wastage.

Special attention is paid to the education of backward classes. Boarding houses, scholarships, freeships and other facilities are provided to bring education within their easy reach. The measures are described on pages —

As the improvement in elementary education depends on the efficiency of teachers, training facilities are extended and improved. The number and proportion of trained teachers increased from 3,831 or 61.3 per cent. in 1928 to 5,339 or 79.1 per cent. of the total strength.

There were 2,329 primary schools. The number of pupils under instructions in primary schools were 2,76,932 — of these 1,59,890 were boys and 1,17,042 girls. The percentage of boys and girls under instruction in primary schools to the total male and female population was 10.8 and 8.5 respectively.

The policy of developing the rural library system as an essential complement to mass education is being pursued. The number of

village libraries now stands at 1,388. During the last fifteen years, there has been an increase of 660 rural libraries.

The primary school teachers are being trained for years past in physical education, scouting and in elements of village improvements, so that they may introduce these activities in the villages and thus play a useful role in village life.

29. HIGHER EDUCATION — The policy of the Government is not to open any more Government secondary schools but to encourage private enterprise as far as possible by giving grants-in-aid. New rules have been framed for giving grants-in-aid to secondary schools.

University education is provided in the Baroda College, the Pratapsinh College of Commerce and Economics and the Secondary Teachers' Training College. The colleges at Visnagar, Navsari and Petlad started functioning during the year.

Medical and Engineering Colleges in Baroda City, affiliated to Bombay University, have been sanctioned by the Government and preparations for their opening are well advanced.

Technical education is imparted at the Kalabhavan and the vocational high school at Baroda, the district industrial schools at Amreli and Patan and the Navsari technical school, Navsari.

Besides these, there are 5 music schools, 10 Sanskrit schools, 2 schools for defectives and boarding houses for the depressed and backward communities. There are 35 special institutions with 1,706 pupils attending them: of these 450 were girls.

30. THE ANTAYAJAS — The position of the depressed classes, who form 15 per cent. of the population, is steadily improving. The total number of Antyaj pupils is 22,533 or 9.7 per cent. of the total Antyaj population. The policy now being enforced is that pupils from this class should be educated in the ordinary schools along with caste Hindu pupils.

31. BACKWARD TRIBES — The education of boys and girls of Raniparaj and other forest tribes living in sparsely populated places with hardly any centre of habitation is a problem of peculiar difficulty. After the first experience of compulsion, the Raniparaj areas were exempted from the operation of the Compulsory Primary Education Act and a scheme of grant-in-aid schools was introduced instead. For the benefit of the boys and girls belonging to Raniparaj, six boarding houses are maintained.

32. PUBLIC WORKS — The progress of public works has been affected by the shortage of supplies, non-availability of materials, the

difficulties of transport and the rise in prices and several schemes were kept in abeyance. Several important works were undertaken in spite of these difficulties.

The Vijapur Tube Well and Electricity scheme of Irrigation by power pumping from tube wells by motor pumps was put in operation. The total expenditure of the scheme so far has been Rs. 13.33 lakhs.

Sabarmati Irrigation project contemplating damming the Sabarmati river at Ransipur and drawing the water to irrigate the Southern areas of Mehsana district is ready and has been referred to the Central Waterways Irrigation Navigation Commission for expert opinion.

The Ambica River scheme is completed according to present requirements and water is being given for sugarcane.

The Zankhari Irrigation Project contemplates irrigation of lands in Vyara and Mahuva talukas of the Navsari district. It is referred to the Central Waterways Irrigation Navigation Commission for expert advice.

Schemes for the improvement of Baroda and district towns are being pressed forward. Underground drainage was extended in Baroda city, Bhadran and Navsari and plans for Amreli, Sojitra and Dharmaaj have been prepared.

33. **VISHVAMITRI FLOOD CONTROL SCHEME**— This scheme was examined by Mr. Mazumdar of the Central Waterways Irrigations Navigation Commission and further investigation as suggested by him were undertaken. A scheme for constructing a new bridge, to replace the existing bridge, as suggested by Sir William Stampe and Mr. Mazumdar, was under preparation.

34. **MEDICAL RELIEF**— A programme for opening dispensaries in rural areas so that no village may be more than five miles away from a dispensary was recently contemplated. For further development, several measures have been adopted.

- (i) To increase the facilities now available for medical aid for women and children, a separate trust associated with the name of Her Highness Maharani Shantadevi has been created.
- (ii) An anti-malaria scheme formulated in co-operation with the District Local Board of Navsari for opening dispensaries and centres for the worst affected areas has been sanctioned.
- (iii) Another scheme for opening dispensaries with public assistance in all talukas with less than four dispensaries has been adopted.

- (iv) Medical practitioners and Vaidyas are offered subsidies to induce them to settle in villages and give medical aid to the people of that and the surrounding villages.

There were 129 medical institutions, hospitals and dispensaries in the State, i. e., one for every 22,139 persons. There were 931 beds in hospitals. The number of indoor patients was 0.18 lakh and of outdoor patients 11.2 lakhs. The number of surgical operations — major and minor — was 1.48 lakhs.

35. MEDICAL RELIEF FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN — With the establishment of the Shri Maharani Shantadevi Trust, all efforts for extension of medical relief to women and children have received a new impetus.

The trust since its inception in 1939 has established 30 maternity homes with 179 beds. A ten-bed maternity hospital each at Karjan and Dabhoi and a three-bed maternity at Nar started working during the year.

The number of patients admitted was 3,312 and the number of ante-natal cases was 5,053.

36. POST WAR RECONSTRUCTION — The Policy committees prepared reports on post-war plan concerning Agriculture, Forest, Fisheries, Co-operation, Public Works, Railways, Irrigation, Telephones, Education, Medical, Electric and Trade and Industries.

His Highness the Maharaja Sahab was pleased to appoint a central co-ordinating committee of official and non-official members, including members of the Dhara Sabha, prominent industrialists, etc., to scrutinise and co-ordinate the plans recommended by the Policy Committee.

A Ways and Means committee to suggest ways and means (mainly financial) for the effective execution of the post-war plans has been appointed.

INDEX

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D—Contd.	PAGE	H	PAGES
Divorce law ...	100	Harij Farm ...	111 See agriculture
Drainage works ...	97	Health ...	186
E		Hindu Divorce Act ...	100
Economic Boards		Hindu Monogamy Act ...	102
State 127; District ...	128	Hindu Women's property legislation	101
Economic legislation ...	104, 204	Hospitals ...	186
Education ...	167-185	medical institutions, maternity hospitals, and tuberculosis hospitals	
agriculture 111; antyaj 175; backward classes 175; board 17; department 14; higher education 168, institutions 168, 172; kindergarten schools 175; library 27; Muslims 177; primary 173; Raniparaj 176; Royal children 172; secondary 171; stagnation and wastage 174; technical 178; Thakardas 177; training of teachers 177; University 168; Waghers 177.		Horticulture ...	112
Electric department ...	17, 144	Huzur Nyaya Sabha ...	43-44
Electric concerns		I	
Baroda city 144; Gandevi 145; Petlad 145; Okha 145; Vijapur 145.		Imperial Council of Agricultural Research	110
Epidemics ...	192	Inams ...	69
Excise ...	73-77	Income-tax ...	72
of matches 76; on salt 76; on sugar 76.		Industrial concessions ...	130
Executive Council ...	7, 32	chemicals 131; policy 129.	
Expenditure of the State ...	54;	Industries Board ...	135
Experimental farms ...	111 See Development work	Industries ...	13, 129-139
Extradition ...	53-54	cottage 133; chemicals 131; department 13, 129; forest 151; glass 132; major 130; match 132; pottery 132; textile 130; sugar 132.	
F		Infant mortality ...	191
Farms ...	111 See agricultural	Information Bureau ...	200
Finance ...	11, 57-65	Insurance Act ...	142
assets and liabilities 65; budget 57; causes of variations 59-60; expenditure 61; receipts 57.		Insurance companies ...	142
Finger-print bureau ...	52	Insurance of State servants ...	143
Fisheries department ...	14, 147	Irrigation ...	153
Fishermen's colonies ...	148	Ambica 154; schemes 153; Sabarmati 153; tanks 154; Umra 154; Vijapur 153; Zankhari 153.	
Fish liver oil scheme ...	148	J	
Forest ...	14, 149-152	Jagudan farm ...	111 See Agriculture
administration 152; industries 151; produce 150, 151 roads 152, 158 Silviculture 149; utilisation 150.		Joint stock companies ...	140
Fruit preservation ...	112 See horticulture	Judiciary ...	43-48;
Furniture factory ...	160	courts 44; income and expenditure 54; supervision 54.	
G		Justice ...	43-48,
Gadkwar's Oriental Series ...	183	civil 44; criminal 46.	
Grants-in-aid institutions ...	172	K	
Government of Baroda, Act ...	7	Kalabhavan ...	178
Grading ...	114 See marketing	Kerosene ...	83
		Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat ...	44
		L	
		Labour ...	136
		Labour conditions ...	137
		co-operative societies 138; disputes 137; maternity benefits 139.	
		Land ...	9, 66-69;
		administration 9, 66-69; Barkhali 22, 69; area and crops 66-67; revenue 66-78; co-operative measures 71; collections 69-72; remissions and suspensions 72.	

L—Contd.	PAGES	R	PAGE
Land mortgage banks ...	117	Railways ...	17, 162-166
Land revenue equalisation fund...	64	Record of rights ...	4h
Land revenue - system of ...	19-22	Registered companies ...	140
Law and Order ...	49-54,	Registration ...	47
Legislation ...	40-42	Relations with other Governments	33-35
Legislature ...	8	Relief measures ...	72
election 8; principles on which		Religions ...	27
based 8, Secretariat 7, work of 40		Remission of land revenue ...	72
Libraries ...	180	Rent Regulation Act ...	105
Library association ...	181	Reserve fund ...	12, 65
Library movement ...	15, 180-181	Revenue department ...	9, 66
Literacy ...	27,	Revenues ...	57-65
Local Boards ...	90	Revenue - collection of ...	69
Local self Government ...	18, 90	Revision settlement ...	21
Local cess ...	90	Roads	
		forest roads 152, feeder roads 91.	
M		Rural reconstruction centres ...	207
Malaria - measures against ...	92, 97		
Marketing - co-operative ...	113	S	
Maternity homes ...	187	Sanitary department ...	16
Medical department ...	15	Sanskrit schools ...	184
Medical institutions ...	186, 189	Sanitation ...	190
Medical relief of women and children	16, 89, 187	Salt revenue ...	76
Municipality: Baroda 93; district 95		Sanyas Diksha Restrain Act ...	104
Museum ...	183	Sayajirao III H. H. the late Maharaja	5
Music schools ...	185	Sayaji General Hospital ...	188
Muslims - education of ...	175	Sayajirao Memorial Fund ...	5, 88, 205
Muslim Women's Divorce Act ...	103	Scheduled classes ...	176 See Raniparaj
O		Scholarships ...	167
Occupancy rights ...	19	Season ...	202
Okha Port - shipping and trade...	126	Season crops ...	66
Opium ...	75	Settlement - system of ...	20, 68
Oriental Institute ...	182	Services Committee ...	17
		Shanta Devi Trust Fund ...	16
P		Shipping ...	127
Passports ...	34	Social Disabilities Removal Act...	104
Patents and designs ...	128	Social legislation ...	98, 203
Payment of Wages Act ...	138	Societies ...	120-121
Picture Gallery ...	183	Soil conservation ...	113, 208
Petroleum ...	77	Special Marriage Act ...	102
Police ...	11, 49-50	State Economic Board ...	7
C. I. D. 52; Finger Print Bureau 52.		State General Hospital ...	15
Policy ...	9	State Press ...	199
Population distribution and density 25; distribution 25; rural 25.		State Record ...	200
Post-war reconstruction ...	161-194, 195	State Revenue Fund ...	12, 65
Prant Panchayats ...	90 See District Local Boards	Stationery ...	17
Pratapsinh H. H. the Maharaja	5	Statistics department ...	14, 140
Press ...	198	Statistical returns ...	140
Government: 199; tone of 49.		Strikes ...	136
Prisons ...	53	Sugar factory ...	132
education 5; health 53.		Surgical instruments ...	132
Propaganda agriculture ...	110 See Agriculture	Survey ...	20, 68
Public health ...	186	Suspension of land revenue ...	72
Public works ...	16, 153-161	System of Government ...	7

	PAGES	V—Contd.	PAGE
T		Vijapur farm	110
Tagavi	70	See Agriculture	
Taxes - collection of	72-77		
Tax - free zones	127	Village panchayats	18, 92
Teachers - training of	177	Village sanitation	190
Technical education	178	Village water supply	85, 92
Telephones	145	Vyara farm	110
Tenures non-ryotwari 24 ankadabandi		See Agriculture	
24, bhagdari 24, ek-ankadi 24;			
naradari 24, ryotwari 24.			
Thakardas - education of	85, 177		
Ticketless travel	165	W	
Towns - improvement of	154		
Trade	136	Waghers education	177
Trade unions	137	Wards - court of	197
Traffic	164	War efforts	34, 201
Translation bureau	183	Water supply works	85
Tuberculosis Hospital	188	Weights and Measures	128
V		Workmen's Compensation Act...	138
Vaccination	192	Works of public utility	95
Veterinary relief	114	Women's property legislation	101

